

Wild

AUSTRALIA'S WILDERNESS ADVENTURE MAGAZINE

Spring
(October–December) 1994, no 54
\$6.50*

**PEAK
BAGGERS'
GUIDEBOOK INSIDE**

Surveys:

**Water
purification
Rockclimbing
gyms**

Bushwalking:

**Long-distance tracks
Walking near
Canberra
Eating better for
the bush**

**Trekking highest
Africa
Wildest Queensland
The **un**flooding
of Lake Pedder
Rockclimbing
reflections**



ISSN 1030-469X



9 771030 469006



QUEST TENTS



Quest tents are manufactured from the highest quality materials available and with the utmost attention to detail. All flies and tent bodies are built with QuesTex 300™ while floors are constructed of 210 t nylon taffeta for additional abrasion resistance. A high-quality polyurethane coating is applied to flies and floors to ensure a watertight tent. All models have integral vestibules which provide additional storage and cooking space. All four-season tents have stake-out loops large enough to accommodate skis or pickets, along with multiple guy-line attachment points for increased wind stability.

QuesTex 300 is a revolutionary new fabric that Quest has developed for exclusive use in this range of tents.

QUEST LIFETIME WARRANTY

All Quest products are backed by our Lifetime Warranty. They are made from premium-quality materials to ensure your satisfaction, and are fully guaranteed against defects in workmanship or material. Should a product fail due to a manufacturing defect, even after prolonged use, we will repair or replace it, at our option, without charge.



A heritage born of the mountains



This exciting new range of tents is only available at Mountain Designs.

Melbourne 377 Little Bourke St (03) 670 3354 • Sydney 499 Kent St (02) 267 3822 • Perth 862 Hay St (09) 322 4774 •
Canberra 7 Lonsdale St Braddon (06) 247 7488 • Cottesloe 31 Jarrad St (09) 385 1689 • Brisbane 105 Albert St (07) 221 6756 •
Katoomba 190 Katoomba St (047) 82 5999 • Hawthorn 654 Glenferrie Rd (03) 818 1544 • Adelaide 121 Grenfell St
(08) 232 0690 • Morwell 20 Tarwin St (051) 34 3411



DEPARTMENTS

- 3 Editorial**
Ecobucks
- 17 Wild Information**
Including Australian
Himalayan climbing
- 19 Wild Diary**
What's on, and when
- 21 Green Pages**
Including international action
to clean up wild places
- 23 Action Box**
What you can do for the
wild environment
- 29 Wild Ideas**
Leave your stove behind, and
eat better in the bush;
by *Rob Blakers*
- 33 The Wild Life**
A new column,
by *Quentin Chester*
Guidebook
Peak Baggers' Guide
by *John Chapman*
- 59 Folio**
Queensland's natural beauty,
by *Rob Stevens*
- 69 Track Notes**
Bushwalking in the Canberra
region, with *Martin Chalk*
- 73 Wild Gear Survey**
Water filters and purifiers
- 83 Equipment**
Including rockclimbing gyms
survey
- 87 Trix**
Drying socks the cosy way
- 91 Reviews**
Including new guidebooks
- 97 Wildlife**
Letters to the Editor
- 116 Wild Shot**
Cave dwellers?

WARNING

The activities covered by this magazine are dangerous. Undertaking them without proper training, experience, skill, regard to safety, and equipment could result in serious injury or death.

Cover Melbourne climber Paul O'Byrne at 7600 metres on Tibet's Shisha Pangma (8046 metres). *Andrew Evans*

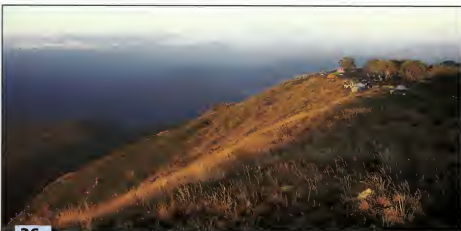
*Maximum Australian recommended retail price only

Wild

AUSTRALIA'S WILDERNESS ADVENTURE MAGAZINE

Established 1981

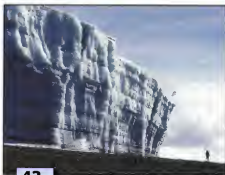
CONTENTS



36

The Long Walks

Australia's long-distance walking tracks,
by *John Chapman*



42

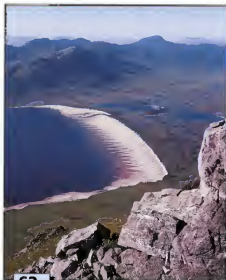
Highest Africa

Trekking in the mountains of East Africa,
by *Grant Dixon*

52

All Summer Long

Bruce Cameron looks back with nostalgia
on long climbing days in Tasmania



62

The Unflooding of Lake Pedder

Geoff Mosley examines the environmental
equivalent of raising the *Titanic*



54

The Loneliness of the Long-distance Paddler

Peter Treseder's river trips on Cape
York Peninsula, by *Ian Brown*

SOURCE
VAGABOND SYSTEMS



TWO INNOVATIVE NEW PRODUCTS FOR 1994

From the first moment we set ourselves on the course of SOURCE, we committed ourselves to develop original and only best quality equipment for you, the Traveller.



ADVENTURE SANDAL[®] **STREAM[™]**

- Patented original concept of strapping system enabling perfect fit to individual shape of foot and type of activity.
- Firm EVA. upper sole. No odour! No slip! No compression!
- Anatomical soft mid-sole. Support, shock absorption and individual foot contour adaption!



STANDARD ACCESSORY: Sturdy storage bag.
S I Z E S : European 37-46.

- Unique **TackDan[™]** lower sole, with pyramidal profile. New formulation of vulcanized rubber produced in a tyre factory. Outstanding grip and abrasion resistance.



STRAPS: New original patterns of soft tubular straps.



THE DRINKING SYSTEM **FLEXI FLASK[™]**

- 10 mm insulation layer keeps water cool.
- Replaceable inner bag which can carry boiling water.
- Easy-to-open leak-proof nozzle.
- Handle and wide opening to permit easy refilling.

ACCESSORY: Plug-in pipe system.

S I Z E S : 1.5 and 2.5 litre.



SOURCE products are available at selected outdoor stores in your area.

Exclusively distributed in Australia by: **NOMAD Travel Equipment**, PO Box 1222, Bondi Junction, 2022

Tel: (02) 369 1150 Fax: (02) 369 1105

For information call: (02) 369 1150

Managing Editor Chris Baxter
Assistant Editors David Burnett,
Glenn van der Knijff
Sub-editor Mary Harber
Advertising Stephen Hamilton
Subscriptions Joan Lewins, Graeme Owers
Accounts Ann Dressler
Design & production Bruce Godden
Consultants Michael Collie, Brian Walters

Contributing Editors
Stephen Bunton *Caving*
John Chapman *Track Notes*
Stephen Garnett *Natural History*
Michael Hampton *Cross-country Skiing*
Tim Macartney-Snape
Greg Mortimer *Mountaineering*
Yvonne McLaughlin *Canoing*
Brian Walters *Reviews*
Special Advisers
Andrew Cox, Roger Lembit,
Andrew Menk, David Noble (NSW),
Bob Burton, Geoff Dixon, Geoff Law,
Ted Mead (Tas), Glenn Tempest (Vic),
Jamie Pittcock (NT)

Publisher Wild Publications Pty Ltd
ACN 006 748 938

Printing York Press

Colour reproduction Scanagraphix Pty Ltd

Typesetting Cherry Graphics Australia
Pty Ltd and York Press

Distribution Gordon and Gotch Limited

Subscription rates are available at \$25.95 for one year (four issues), \$47.95 for two years, or \$68 for three years; by surface mail to addresses in Australia. Add \$7.00 for each four issues to overseas addresses. When moving, advise us immediately of your new and old addresses to avoid lost or delayed copies. Please also send your address sheet received with a copy of *Wild*.

Advertising rates are available on request. Copy deadlines (advertising and editorial): 8 October (summer issue), 15 January (autumn), 15 April (winter), 15 July (spring). See below for publication dates.

Contributions, preferably well illustrated with slides, are welcome. *Guidelines for Contributors* are available on receipt of a stamped, addressed envelope. Submissions should be either typed, double-spaced on one side of an A4 sheet of paper or, preferably, supplied on an IBM-formatted floppy disk, saved as either a text file or an ASCII file. Hard copy, printed as described above, should accompany the disk. Submissions not accompanied by an envelope and sufficient postage *cannot* be returned.

Names and addresses should be written on disks, manuscripts and photos. While every care is taken, we do not accept responsibility for material submitted. Articles represent the views of the authors, and not necessarily those of the publisher.

Editorial, advertising, subscription, distribution and general correspondence to:

Wild Publications Pty Ltd, PO Box 415,
Prahran, Vic 3181, Australia.
Phone (03) 826 8482
Fax (03) 826 3787

Wild is published quarterly in the middle of the month before cover date (cover dates: Jan-Mar, Apr-Jun, Jul-Sep, Oct-Dec) by Wild Publications Pty Ltd. The *Wild* logo (ISSN 1030-469X) is registered as a trade mark, and the use of the name is prohibited. All material copyright © 1994 Wild Publications Pty Ltd. All rights reserved. No part of the contents of this publication may be reproduced without first obtaining the written consent of the publisher. Wild attempts to verify advertising, track notes, route descriptions, maps and other information, but cannot be held responsible for erroneous, incomplete or misleading material.

EDITORIAL

COBUCK\$

Spending our way to environmental riches?

It has been a tactic of developers of wilderness areas to brand those opposed to their often questionable activities as being 'against everything'. Perhaps partly in response to such taunts, and in search of allies, conservationists have tended to be quick to suggest alternative commercial development. Often too quick, in my view.

This predilection has spawned a rash of trendy ecotourism ventures from Cape York to South-west Tasmania. Using truck-loads of arty stationery and advertising leaflets (brown paper is *de rigueur*), they are at pains to assure us of their unblemished environmental credentials. But it seems that in many cases the environment has only escaped the frying-pan of wholesale development to perish in the fire of creeping development in the guise of ecotourism.

The battle to preserve Victoria's Mt Stirling from development as a downhill ski resort is a case in point. If you are familiar with the area it will be obvious to you that while the sort of development envisaged by Messrs Grollo, Kennett & co would result in the indefensible destruction of a major and unique alpine peak, the area is not sufficiently extensive or resilient to bear any further development without serious degradation of its immense natural charm.

Areas like Mt Stirling are attractive and valuable *because* they are undeveloped. Wilderness is of incalculable intrinsic value, even if not all of us realize it yet. This is the message we have a duty to espouse no matter how unpalatable it may be to some initially. We should certainly not close our minds to the possibility of economic alternatives to logging, alpine real estate development and the like, but our response must be carefully considered, rather than based on short-term expediency. Wilderness is not a commodity that can be packaged, marketed and sold without the loss of wilderness itself, its economic value (Japanese and European tourists visiting Australia are attracted precisely by what they lack at home—untrammelled wilderness) and, ultimately, its spiritual value to our entire race.

It must be Christmas

In *Wild* no 50 I announced that, as part of our quest to raise the quality of writing in *Wild*, we would pay an annual award of \$750, the *Wild* Article of the Year Award. (Judging from the outstanding response to our latest issue, no 53, the quest has already made its mark.) It gives me great pleasure to announce that the winner of the inaugural award, chosen from articles appearing in issues 50–53, inclusive, is Peter Jackson, for his article on Peter Dombrovskis published in *Wild* no 53. Let's see your article soon.

In *Wild* no 52 we made it known that simply by subscribing to *Wild* or renewing an existing subscription, readers could win \$3000 worth

of Australian air travel and a complete set of the first 50 issues of *Wild*. Following the draw to determine the winners, Dennis Byrne of Thornbury, Victoria, is flying high, as it were! Meanwhile Carl Ridgeway of Beechworth, Victoria, has no shortage of reading material. We congratulate the lucky duo and take this opportunity to thank all our subscribers—who have helped to take our subscription list to record levels.

With this issue I am writing to subscribers to urge them to 'sign up a friend' as a subscriber. For *Wild* to continue to be a strong and effective voice for the interests of bushwalkers and other wilderness lovers in protecting our threatened wild places from the twin perils of development and bureaucracy, we need a substantial and growing core of committed readers—our subscribers. Whether or not you are currently a subscriber, I ask you to consider joining us in this way.

Each year we donate a proportion of the income we derive from subscriptions to organizations working for present and future generations, particularly to those concerned with protecting the environment. Major donations made this year include \$3700 to World Vision and \$3700 to the Wilderness Society. In addition, we gave \$1000 to the Tasmanian Conservation Trust and pledged the same amount for each of the next two years to help fund a position for leading Tasmanian conservationist, and a *Wild* Special Adviser since our first issue, Bob Burton. Winner of a United Nations Global 500 Award in 1992 in recognition of his long-standing conservation efforts, Burton has been described as one of Australia's most effective environmental campaigners.

Finally, we are proud to sponsor an expedition led by distinguished Australian mountaineer and *Wild* Contributing Editor for Mountaineering Greg Mortimer to Chongtar (7350 metres) in China, one of the world's highest unclimbed peaks. ■

Chris Baxter

Environmental impact statement

This magazine is printed on Ozone paper, which is made of 75 per cent post-consumer waste that has been recycled and oxygen-bleached. We are not aware of any other paper suitable for magazine publishing that includes as high a level of recycled post-consumer waste. As a suitably heavy weight of Ozone is not available for the cover, that section is printed on Topkote paper, which is made of oxygen-bleached 40 per cent recycled pre-consumer waste and 10 per cent post-consumer waste. We recycle the film used in the printing process. *Wild* staff run an environmentally aware office. Waste paper is recycled, printer ribbons are re-inked and waste is kept to an absolute minimum. We invite your comments and recommendations; please contact the Managing Editor.

HARVEST FOODWORKS

Innovative Foods For A Changing World!



FOR PEOPLE ON THE GO!

- Premium natural ingredients
- Hearty portions
- Home-cooked taste
- Quick and easy
- Spice to taste
- No artificial colour, flavour or preservative
- Reusable, reclosable bag

Distributed by

Grant Minervini Agencies Pty Ltd
PO Box 209, WELLAND, SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5007.
Phone: (08) 346 6061. Fax: (08) 340 0675.

SNO-SEAL®

THE ORIGINAL BEESWAX WATERPROOFING



The key to protecting leather is to maintain its natural properties. Products containing animal fats such as lanolin, goose grease and mink oil offer only temporary protection and after prolonged use break down leather, softening its fibres and weakening it until it loses its natural strength. Animal fats become rancid and decay leather. Animal fats were removed in the tanning process so the leather would not rot. Why would anyone put animal fat back into leather?

To protect your leather use SNO-SEAL.

SNO-SEAL is composed of bees waxes; natural waxes which do not decay or rot. Beeswax has been found in Egyptian tombs still protecting the treasures it had preserved for 2,000 years. SNO-SEAL penetrates leather, lubricating and waterproofing the fibres. SNO-SEAL lubricates with wax allowing the leather to breathe without softening the fibres beyond their natural state. Thus the leather retains its life for years. SNO-SEAL penetrates deep into the leather for maximum water resistance and lubrication. SNO-SEAL protects against drying out and deterioration many times longer than greases, oils and animal fats.

ENJOY DRY FEET ALL DAY WITH SNO-SEAL, THE ORIGINAL BEESWAX WATERPROOFING.

NEW! FROM SNO-SEAL

For suede or brushed leather, nylon, cotton, canvas, and other fabrics **SILICONE-WATERGUARD** by SNO-SEAL is the most concentrated and effective water and stain repellent available.



Distributed by



ANSO PTY LTD
Phone (03) 471 1500
Fax (03) 471 1600

Wild

AUSTRALIA'S WILDERNESS ADVENTURE MAGAZINE

REFERENCE MATERIAL

Your valuable *Wild* collection is designed as a wilderness reference resource you can use.

WILD INDEXES

The first one published covers issues 1-10 (1981-83). One has been published every two years (eight issues) since then. The latest index, for issues 43-50, is out now. Copies of all indexes are still available. **\$5.95 each.**

WILD BINDERS

Protect your magazines and keep them in order. *Wild* binders are emerald green with light green lettering. Each one holds eight copies of *Wild* and an index. **\$16.95 each.**

WILD BACK ISSUES

Complete your set. *Wild's* outstanding reference value makes you want to refer to it again and again, year after year. Many issues are still available. **\$6.50 each.**

Use the order form in this issue to let us know what you want, or phone (03) 826 6483 with your credit card handy.

Wild Publications Pty Ltd ACN 006 748 938
PO Box 415, Prahran, Vic 3181

TAKE THE PLUNGE

Whether you're a nervous beginner or seasoned adventurer, you'll get the chance to really extend yourself on one of our courses or expeditions.

LEARN TO ABSEIL

Our most popular course. Do as much abseiling as you can fit into a day, progressing from the "nursery boulder" to huge free-falls. An ideal, fun introduction suitable for all ages, this course will prepare you for a wide range of more advanced trips.

Held every Saturday, Sunday & Wednesday. Cost: \$70
Includes a lavish lunch, certificate and all equipment.
Group discounts available.

AND MUCH MORE!

We run: an in-depth **Advanced Abseiling Course**, expeditions include the 1200 foot face of **Mt Banks** (largest cliff face in the Blue Mountains); our highly reputed **Abseiling Instructors Course**; a wide range of **Rockclimbing Courses** — beginners to advanced; amazing **canyoning trips**; exhilarating **mountain bike rides** ...

CONTACT US FOR A FREE
16-PAGE COLOUR BROCHURE

190 Katoomba St, Katoomba NSW 2780 • Phone (047) 82 1271 (office) or 018 210 743 (mobile)



HIGH ADVENTURE

ABSEILING

Beginners' abseiling trips with the original Blue Mountains climbing and abseiling school! Let Australia's most experienced instructing team introduce you to the world of high adventure! Beginners' Abseiling Courses run 9 am to 5 pm every day of the year!

Cost: **\$69**

OTHER ABSEILING COURSES & TOURS

Advanced Courses, Rescue Courses, Certified Leaders' Courses, Three Sisters Abseiling Expeditions, Canyoning Courses and Guided Tours.

ROCKCLIMBING

Rockclimbing courses to suit all levels of experience from novice to advanced! Rock courses and guided climbs run all year round!

MOUNTAINEERING EXPEDITIONS

Call us for details on these exciting ASM Expeditions:

- Mt Cook, Dec 94
- Himalayan Three Peaks, Sept 95
- Aconcagua, Feb 96
- Pik Communism, Jul 96
- Broad Peak, Jul 97



**AUSTRALIAN
SCHOOL OF
MOUNTAINEERING**
THE LEADING MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE
SPECIALISTS SINCE 1981

COME AND JOIN THE EXPERTS

From the Blue Mountains to the Himalayas, climb with Australia's leading professional climbing guides and instructors.

**WRITE OR CALL FOR
OUR FREE COLOUR
BROCHURE**

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL
OF MOUNTAINEERING
182 Katoomba Street,
Katoomba, NSW 2780
Phone (047) 82 2014
Fax (047) 82 5787

FREE Quarterly Catalogue
 Latest Issue **NOW OUT!**
 World-wide Mail Order Service

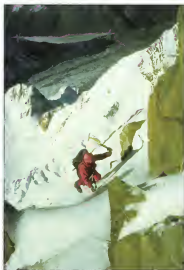
SLEEPING BAGS
 CLIMBING GEAR
 CLOTHING
 PACKS
 LIGHTS
 ROPES
 BOOTS
 TENTS

wildsports
 327 Sussex St. Sydney

TO: wildsports, P.O. Box 0302, Sydney, 2000.
 Please send me your FREE catalogue.
 Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Postcode: _____

FREE CALL 008 812 910 in Sydney 204 2046

NEW ZEALAND MOUNTAINEERING



Climbing Courses Guided Ascents

Director: Gottlieb Braun-Elwert UIAGM

Alpine Recreation

P.O. Box 75, Lake Tekapo, N.Z.
 Ph: (03) 680-6736, Fax: (03) 680-6765

Errant Tours

Adventure Skiing Programmes



Photo: Andrew Barnes

Red Mountain, B.C., Canada, 1995

Join our expert guides and discover the skiing secrets of the Kootenays; experience the incredible terrain, deep powder, legendary tree-skiing and uncrowded resorts; and explore the spectacular back country. Our comprehensive 20-day programmes combine maximum adventure and intensive skiing improvement.

For a brochure on our Freeheeling Adventure Skiing Programme, contact: Outdoor Travel, ph (03) 670 7252.

Alpine Skiers contact: Jigsaw Travel, ph (03) 521 1416.

BMF 1-4

If you've got to get out of town, let us help you.



Right out of town to one of the most beautiful places on earth, the Tasmanian wilderness. Tasmania's Temptations Holiday Book Outdoor Escapes has a range of holidays that will introduce you to a world of adventure, excitement and natural grandeur that is truly unique.

Why not try any of the following escapes:

Franklin River Rafting - 5 days from \$990 per person

Bushwalking, Cycling and Rafting - 14 days from \$1,580 per person

The Overland Track, Cradle Valley to Lake St Clair - 8 days from \$895 per person

Walking Tour, Freycinet National Park - 4 days from \$895 per person

Port Davey Wilderness Camp - 7 days from \$1,275 per person

A free copy of the Tasmania's Temptations Holiday Book will give you lots of good reasons to get out of town!

Mail to: Tasmania's Temptations Holidays, PO Box 1469, Launceston TAS 7250.

Name.....

Address.....

State..... P/C Phone No

Tasmania's
Temptations
 Holidays

02/92/212

SATISFIED?

Blackheath,
Blue Mountains

Dear Betty,

This is one hell of a tent! Absolutely the best present you've ever given me. Pitches in minutes, weatherproof, strong and so incredibly light! So light in fact, I feel like wandering forever (maybe to the Grampians, which means I won't be back until October). Betty, I love you; for rain, hail or shine this baby is as snug as your double bed. Got to go, Darling, otherwise I'll miss the sunset. I'll write again when I'm around the Otways. Hope you like the photos.

Love, Edmund
x x x

BETTY



BLUE MOUNTAIN 1.9 KG



GRAMPIAN 2.2 KG



OTWAY 2.4 KG

Light in weight, heavy on features.

Mountain Leisure Ultra-lightweight Specialist Tents feature some of the latest tent construction technology and materials in the world. Standard features you'll fall in love with include:

- Anodized, pre-stressed and pre-bent Easton aluminium poles
- Heat-sealed, taped seams in floor and fly
- Breathable nylon inner
- 1000 denier P/U-coated nylon fly-sheet
- Ring-and-pin pole construction
- Fly tension adjusters
- Internal mesh pocket.

Individual features:

Blue Mountain

- Easton aluminium
- 1-pole construction
- Easy twin-door entry.

Otway

- Easton aluminium
- 2-pole construction
- Extractor vents
- Large front vestibule.

Grampian

- Easton aluminium
- 3-pole construction
- Extractor vents
- Large front vestibule.



For your nearest Mountain Leisure Stockist ring toll free on 008 227 070.

ARE YOU OUTWARD BOUND ENOUGH?



Brave enough to have a good, penetrating look at yourself and how you handle life?

Adventurous enough to tackle the unknown and to face new challenges?

Bold enough to risk new social relationships and to work with other people to achieve?

Strong enough to leave all that is familiar and to seek an understanding of your future?

Excited enough to want to go on expeditions, cave, raft, rockclimb, abseil, canoe, ski?

Interested enough to want to see some of the most magnificent mountains, bushlands, rivers, rain forests and natural places in Australia?

and Courageous enough to decide that NOW is the time to find out what Outward Bound really is all about?

To find out more, phone 1800 267 999 or (02) 261 2200 or send the slip below to:

AUSTRALIAN OUTWARD

BOUND FOUNDATION

Box 4213, GPO Sydney, NSW 2001

NAME

ADDRESS

PCODE PHONE

PLEASE SEND ME INFORMATION ON

- ☐ Pack & Paddle Camps
- ☐ Challenge Course (aged 17-30)
- ☐ Adult Course (aged over 30)

AW SPRING 1994

WALKING, SKIING, CLIMBING IN NZ?

Join a MOUNTAIN RECREATION activity directed by NZ's most experienced Mountain Guide, Tassie-born Geoff Wyatt.

4 season: Mt Aspiring Guided Treks—a 3-day spectacular valley walk.

4 season: Mt Aspiring & Mt Cook Peaks & Parks—private guided expeditions.

Jul-Aug: Avalanche Awareness Workshops/Aust-NZ.

Oct-Nov: Ski Mountaineering with Geoff Wyatt (1st ski descent of Mt Cook) on Fox and Franz Josef Glaciers.

Dec-Feb: Alpine Skills Courses—8 days of energetic peak climbing & tutoring.

Base location: Mountain Recreation's Avalanche Lodge, Shovel Flat, Mt Aspiring National Park. Fully equipped, 10 bunks, heater, hot shower, superb views.



For brochures: Mountain Recreation Ltd

Professional Mountaineers

PO Box 204, Wanaka NZ

Ph/Fax: 0064 3 443 7330

EST 1973 — CELEBRATING 21 YEARS

WANTED...

...adventurers of all ages to join Australia's top mountaineers on expeditions to the world's greatest destinations!

- Climb Aconcagua (6960 m) with Jon and Brigitte Muir
- Ganesh/Manaslu Exploratory with Tim Macartney-Snape
- K2 Support Trek with Peter Hillary

Call us for information on over 70 adventure holidays world-wide.

We have a trip to suit everyone!

Tel toll free 008 803 688

WORLD EXPEDITIONS

BUSH EXPERIENCE



THIS COURSE IS NOT DESIGNED FOR THE ARMCHAIR BUSH ENTHUSIAST!

We teach sound and competent navigation and bushwalking techniques to all users of the outdoors—from novices to professionals. Learn to move surely in untracked country where there are no well-trodden paths or signposts.

For further information contact
Bush Experience, 55 Canopus Drive, East Doncaster, Vic 3109 or phone (03) 842 8181

BUSHWALKERS!



We specialize in the latest lightweight gear.

TENTS, BACKPACKS,
SLEEPING-BAGS,
RAINWEAR, STOVES,
ABSEILING GEAR &
ACCESSORIES.

MACPAC • SCARPA •
BERGHAUS • J&H • M.S.R. •
OUTGEAR • BLUEWATER •
TRANGIA • JANSPOUT

IMPORTANT NOTICE HIRE GEAR NOW AVAILABLE

▲ Macpac - Tents - Backpacks - Sleeping bags
▲ J&H - Rainwear ▲ Trangia - Stoves
▲ Thermo-Rests ▲ Bivvy Bags

Write for your FREE products CATALOGUE and price list

First Name.....

Surname.....

Address.....

Postcode.....

I am interested in the following equipment

BEST
SERVICE!
BEST
PRICES!



1045-47 VICTORIA RD, WEST RYDE, NSW 2114
PHONE: (02) 858 5844 FAX: (02) 804 7251

HIGH 'N' WILD AUSTRALIAN ADVENTURES

3/72 MAIN ST, KATOOMBA

Ph: bh (047) 82 6224; Fax: (047) 82 6143

ABSEIL with the PROFESSIONALS

The Abseil Experience

If it's excitement and plenty of spectacular abseils you want, then abseil with the professionals—High 'n' Wild.

With instructors who genuinely care, High 'n' Wild prides itself on a client service and safety record second to none!

Trips leave Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday from our office directly opposite the Katoomba railway station.

ONLY
\$59

NEPAL 'Mountains are for Everyone'

High 'n' Wild's trips to Nepal are fully supported mountaineering expeditions for those with little or no previous experience. Situated in the Everest region, Island Peak (6200 metres) is exciting but relatively easy climbing within one of the world's unique cultural and physical environments. 39 days, 28 days trekking/climbing. 27 Oct-4 Dec. Ex Syd/Mel \$5285. Ex Kathmandu \$3725.

OTHER ADVENTURES

We're constantly updating all our adventures in abseiling, rockclimbing, canyoning and mountaineering. So fax, call or write for one of our regular newsletters and brochure.

Travel Agents No ZTA 003949



SUMMIT ISLAND PEAK 93



Feel the Fear
But do it anyway!

T-SHIRTS
AVAILABLE

EXTREME / COMPETITION

Chute Jump Mercury Gourou Adrenaline Choucos

CLIMBING

GENERAL PURPOSE

CAVERS

Super Avenir

CHILDREN

Club

STUDENTS

CHALK BAGS

Ergo

HELMETS

Eoin Roc Vertical

DESCENDERS

Rock Stop Expedition

ASCENDERS

Croal Basic

HEADLAMPS

Micro Zoom

WINNERS USE PETZL

Winners at the first and second Australian National Sport Climbing Championships wore Petzl harnesses.

PETZL

Exclusively Distributed in Australia by Spelean Pty Ltd (02) 264 2994, Fax (02) 264 2035

**Quality
When it Counts!**

RESCUE 8

ULTRA Shorti Ascender

ULTRA Ascender

Cmi

Exclusively distributed in Australia by Spelean Pty Ltd
(ACN 002 574067) Ph: (02) 264 2994 Fax: (02) 264 2035

DMM - Master Metal Magicians

There is no compromise on quality with DMM hardware — its beautiful form is ideal for its function.

Wellburts - specially shaped steel nuts with differential covers for 3 points of contact, radiused edges and tapering scoops for more secure placements. Sizes 00, 0 and 1-6.

Eclipse - puts all others in the shade!

Mamba - a high strength hot forged karabiner with a dedicated 19mm sling. Team it with an Eclipse for a superb running belay.

Cobra - Bent or Straight gate, the ultimate clipping karabiner.

Exclusively distributed in Australia by Spelean Pty Ltd
Ph: (02) 264 2994 Fax: (02) 264 2035

**Aussie Made
& proud of it!**

Medium & Large rope packs are durable and tough - protect your ropes and equipment from abrasion.

Handy haul loops and handles. Drain holes.

The Harpoon III™ is the best Figure of 8 descender for caving, canyoning or abseiling. Easy to use, and safe from accidental "dropping" (when used in "Quick Release" mode).

The Whaletail™ is the premier descender for long drops, or large loads. Ideal for caving or vertical rescue.

Use the Spelean rope protector to reduce rope wear on rough or sharp edges. Easy to use velcro fastening.

Australian Made

Spelean
Spelean Pty Ltd ACN 002 574 067

Ph: (02) 264 2994 Fax: (02) 264 2035
In New Zealand Ph: 03 424 0536, Fax: 03 424 0687, Mobile 025 26 2181



HIGH QUALITY

ALPINE GUIDES MOUNT COOK

New Zealand's most experienced
professional Guides.

CLIMBING SCHOOL GUIDED ASCENTS SKI TOURING TREKKING HELISKIING

Alpine Guides Ltd
PO Box 20
Mount Cook
New Zealand
Ph 0011 64 3 435 1834
Fax 0011 64 3 435 1898

Victoria
Outdoor Travel Centre
Ph (03) 670 7252

Queensland
Back Track Adventures
Ph (07) 854 1022

New South Wales
Wilderness Expeditions
Ph (02) 264 3366

South Australia
Thor Adventure
Ph (08) 232 3155

BLACK-WATER



RAFTING

An adventure definitely out of the ordinary. Discover the secret Nullarbor—a place of underground rugged peaks, fiords and pristine lakes. If you enjoyed white-water rafting, then experience the thrill of black-water rafting and 'space walking' the largest underground lakes in the Southern hemisphere. Explore some of the most awesome caves in Australia, with no experience necessary.

3- to 9-DAY Adventures available.

OSPREY WILDLIFE EXPEDITIONS

Phone/fax: (08) 388 2552

WAF 1/4

ADVENTURE AT YOUR DOORSTEP

Few thrills can exceed the exhilaration of scaling the heights, rafting rivers or riding your bike down an alpine road after a glorious sunrise. And right here, in the Victorian Alps, some of the wildest settings for all these adventures are to be found. Our range of activities includes rockclimbing, abseiling, white-water rafting, canoeing, hiking, mountaineering, ski touring and multi-activity programmes.

- All this great action only two hours from Melbourne
- Don't miss the spring, hot white-water rafting
- Call now to experience the challenge and the magic of the mountains for yourself



MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE SAFARIS

Phone: (03) 817 4683

Fax: (03) 817 1477

Mobile: 018 574 796

WAF 1/4

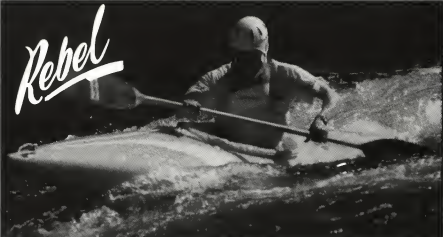
SEW THEM YOURSELF AND SAVE



**Rain Parkas and Overpants
Fleece Jackets
and Pants
Gaiters
Day Pack
Fabric by
the metre**

Sizes from two years to adult
Phone or write for information:
OUTDOOR WEAR
PO Box 1439, Woden 2606
Telephone 018 633 157

Rebel



PIONEER+WATER=FUN

Designed and manufactured in Australia, the Pioneer Rebel has exceptional stability — making it suitable for experts and novices alike.

The tough polyethylene hull (3.84m long x 0.63m wide) minimises contact damage with rocks and snags, and the in-built U.V. inhibitors give maximum protection against the sun.

The Pioneer Rebel is lightweight for easy handling, and its roomy cockpit and in-built buoyancy make it

an excellent choice for hire fleets. But above all, the Pioneer Rebel is Fun.

Ring Nylex Rotomould for information and details of your nearest distributor. (03) 551 2111

(02) 648 4599

(07) 268 7633.

Calls outside

Melbourne

metro area

008 335 195,

toll free.



SAL TER 5/05

DISCOVER THE WORLD!

With over 20 years of trekking in the world's highest places, Exodus offers the most extensive range of treks, climbs and mountain bike adventures with over 100 itineraries to more than 50 destinations worldwide:

- Africa
- China and Tibet
- Europe
- Karakoram and Hindu Kush
- Nepal and Indian Himalaya
- Russia
- South America
- Turkey

Contact us for your free brochure(s)

EXODUS

Level 5, 95-99 York St, Sydney, 2000
(02) 299 6355 or 1800 800 724

Please send my FREE brochure(s)

- ☐ Walking Explorer ☐ Mountain Bike Adventures
☐ Discovery Holidays ☐ Exodus Overland

Name.....

Address.....

Postcode.....

Line No 27AN03416

WAF 1/4

A VIDEO

*guide to learning
rockclimbing
and abseiling*

Shot at Mt Arapiles, the video explains all your equipment, safe abseiling, belaying, top-roping, natural protection, sport climbing, technique, ethics and much more!

**A MUST FOR ALL
ASPIRING CLIMBERS**

FOR MORE
INFORMATION PLEASE

RING US ON

(02) 331 7559

OR SEND \$39.90 + \$3.00 P&H TO:

GO VERTICAL
106 BURTON STREET,
DARLINGHURST, NSW 2010

GO VERTICAL

THERMADRY

POLYPROPYLENE



Meraklon®
polypropylene fibre

Only 100% Polypropylene gives you the warmth, outstanding drying qualities, and the wickability - a fabric's ability to draw perspiration away from the skin. Lightweight and hardwearing, **Thermadry** can't be beaten for both fabric quality and garment fit.

► **Colour range:**

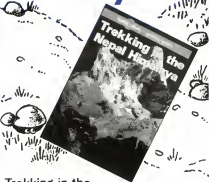
Plains - Navy, White, Emerald, Khaki.
Stripes - Navy/White, Navy/Red, Emerald/Violet, Violet/Navy.



► **Also available:** Socks, Gloves, Balaclavas.

Australian Warehouse: ANSCO. Ph Melb (03) 471 1500 Fax (03) 471 1600
New Zealand Warehouse: Weft Ltd. Ph Chch (03) 379 5314 Freefax 0800 809 338.

Books that tread the path with you



Trekking in the Nepal Himalaya, 6th edition
rrp \$19.95 (available now)



Tramping in New Zealand, 3rd edition
rrp \$18.95 (available November)

Walking you through some of the most exciting bushwalking and trekking routes, these guides give you invaluable information including:

- notes on safety, preparation, planning and equipment
- comprehensive health and first aid sections
- advice on environmentally friendly trekking
- advice for those on organized trips as well as for independent trekkers
- detailed route descriptions for each trek or walk.

lonely planet

To receive Lonely Planet's **FREE** quarterly newsletter and a complete list of titles, write to us at Lonely Planet Publications, PO Box 617, Hawthorn, Vic 3122.
Ph (03) 819 1877. Fax (03) 819 6459.

A/CN 005 807 983

warm • lightweight

The Inside Story...

Du Pont

MicroFibre

- Offers down-like comfort, yet, at equal weight, is warmer than down.
- Fibres are actually five times thinner than a human hair 0.95 Denier.
- Offers today's highest thermal performance from a man made fill.
- Exceptional softness and comfort, without compromising warmth.
- Maintains insulating value, even when wet.
- Effective at blocking radiant heat loss, while greatly reducing conductive heat loss.
- Durable and moisture-resistant.
- Front load machine washable, dryable, and may be dry cleaned.
- Guaranteed to contain no Polyolefin

Du Pont Certified

Quallofil®

- 7-hole fibres trap and hold body heat. Special coating increases sleeping bag compactibility and allows garments to fit closer to the body, eliminating gaps where warm air can escape and cold air can penetrate.
- Maintains its warmth, even when wet.
- Superior loft without added weight.
- Soft, durable, and quick drying.
- Front load machine washable, dryable.
- Tough tested in some of the worlds most rugged cold weather conditions – from Mt Everest and the North Pole to Antarctica.

MICRO 100



LITE TREK



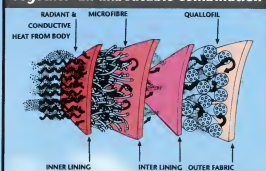
TREK



SUPER TREK



Together-an unbeatable combination



ms are made of.. ROMAN.. What dreams are made of..

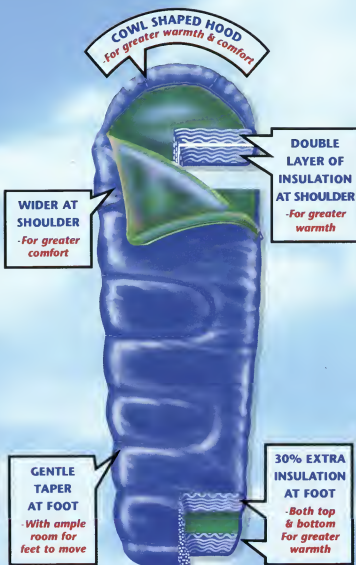
compact • ergonomic

Temperature Rating	+8c
Outside Test Temperature	+4c
Inside Probe	+24c
Total weight	920g
Fill + weight	Micro Fibre 300g ●
Construction	Inner Stitch Free
Design: Tapered only not double insulated	Standard
Draft Tube + Tape Protector at zip	✓
Water Repellent, Breathable, 40 Denier Nylon	✓
Stuff Type	Standard
Size	14 x 30cms
Recommended retail price	\$112.00

Temperature Rating	0c
Outside Test Temperature	-3c
Inside Probe	+24c
Total weight	1100g
Fill + weight	500g Quallofil ●
Construction	Inner stitch free
Draft Tube & Tape Protector at zip	✓
Water Repellent, Breathable, 40 Denier Nylon	✓
Stuff Compression Type	✓
Size Extended	19 x 40cms
Size Compressed	19 x 30cms
Recommended retail price	\$112.00

Temperature Rating	-3c
Outside Test Temperature	-6c
Inside Probe	+27c
Total weight	1400g
Fill + weight	800g Quallofil ●
Construction	Inner stitch free
Draft Tube & Tape Protector at zip	✓
Water Repellent, Breathable, 40 Denier Nylon	✓
Stuff Compression Type	✓
Size Extended	21 x 45cms
Size Compressed	21 x 35cms
Recommended retail price	\$132.00

Temperature Rating	-8c
Outside Test Temperature	-10c
Inside Probe	+27c
Total weight	1600g
Fill + weight	800g Quallofil + 300g Micro Fibre ●●
Construction	Double wall
Draft Tube & Tape Protector at zip	✓
Water Repellent, Breathable, 40 Denier Nylon	✓
Stuff Compression Type	✓
Size Extended	21 x 45 cms
Size Compressed	21 x 35 cms
Recommended retail price	\$152.00



Introducing new ergonomic design features to make our bags even better than before! Plus, with the unique compression bag, you'll find everything you've been dreaming of.

WARNING! Beware of inferior imitations. Insist on getting the original article.

– These Roman Bags are made in Australia. See them now at your local dealer.

ROMAN



Dear Jim,

Already visited Berlin, Vienne, Rome and today we arrived in Santorini. So many things to see! "Sleeping under the stars" is a lot of fun when you've got the right gear.

My Paddy Pallin Traveller sleeping bag is so warm, I'm asleep the moment my head hits the Mont Bell compact pillow. And my Tika Avion Travelpack sure beats a suitcase. This pack is so practical! And the zip-off daypack and hidden toilet bag are really nifty.

My Paddy Pallin 'Longs' are super comfortable and take next to no space in my travelpack. I wash them in the evening and they're dry by morning.

Our experience in Rome convinced me I should never venture anywhere without my Eagle Creek security belt. Gotta run now - we're off to our camp site.

Cheers, Hugh.

ΕΛΛΑΣ
GRIECHELAND



Mr. Jim Duncan
36 King Street,
Carlton, 3053
Victoria
Australia



Paddy Pallin Travel Longs



Eagle Creek Travel Toiletry Kit



Tika Avion Travelpack



Eagle Creek Security Belt



Mont Bell Compact Pillow



Paddy Pallin Traveller Sleeping Bag

Sydney
507 Kent St
Ph 02 264 2685

Miranda
527 Kingsway
Ph 02 525 6829

Canberra
11 Lonsdale St
Braddon
Ph 06 257 3883

Melbourne
360 Lt Bourke St
Ph 03 670 4845

Jindabyne
Kosciusko Road
Ph 064 56 2922

Box Hill
8 Market St
Ph 03 898 8596

Perth
1/915 Hay St
Ph 09 321 2666

Hobart
76 Elizabeth St
Ph 002 31 0777

Launceston
110 George St
Ph 003 31 4240

Adelaide
228 Rundle St
Ph 08 232 3155
Toll Free 008 801 119

Mail Order
360 Lt Bourke St
Melbourne Vic 3000
Ph 03 670 9485
Toll Free 1 800 805 398
Fax 03 670 4622

Paddy Pallin

HIGH COST

Death after Mt Everest success

Success and tragedy in the Himalayas

Australian climbers continue to be active in the highest mountain range in the world with results that have at times been sad and at others, surprising.

Seasoned Mt Everest (8872 metres) campaigner Michael Rheinberger died on 28 May while descending the North Ridge after a successful summit bid (the first Australian ascent by this route) and forced bivouac 200 metres below the summit with New Zealand climber Mark Whetu. Rheinberger, on his seventh attempt on the mountain, is likely to have died of cerebral oedema during a continuing descent cut short the night before when darkness fell on the two climbers.

A number of Australians have added an 8000 metre peak to their resumes in recent months. Melbourne climber Paul O'Byrne bagged his first eight-thousander on 9 May this year when he achieved the West Summit of Tibet's Shisha Pangma (8008 metres—the true summit, which involves very tenuous traversing from the West Summit and is rarely climbed, is 38 metres higher) ahead of two other members of a Canadian-led expedition.

O'Byrne, whose previous highest ascent had been Canada's Mt Robson (3954 metres), reported the climbing to be of about New Zealand grade two in difficulty, complicated by the extreme altitude and steep, unconsolidated snow-slopes. The ascent took 21 days.

Brigitte Muir, who is still waiting for some luck on Mt Everest and on Antarctica's Mt Vinson to allow her to become one of the first women to climb the highest peaks on all seven continents, also climbed the Shisha Pangma West Summit in May. Fellow expedition members Melbourne policemen Paul Carr and Grog Lindsell reached the West Summit on 22 May, two days after Muir. Following this, she teamed up with Jon Tinker, Bill Pierson, Mike Brennan and Babu Chhire Sherpa for an alpine-style attempt on Cho Oyo (8201 metres), which was turned back at 6800 metres. In the process, Muir formulated a new definition for the term 'lightweight expedition'—'It just means carrying a bloody heavy pack all the way up, and a bloody heavy pack all the way down!'

Brigitte Muir and Geoff Wayatt



Brigitte Muir, who is rapidly becoming a prominent figure in the world of female mountaineers, straddling the precarious West Summit of Shisha Pangma (8008 metres), Tibet. Brigitte Muir collection. *Left*, Michael Rheinberger. John Chapman

Michael Rheinberger

There are not many men who, at 53 years of age, are striving to reach the summit of the world's highest mountain. But Michael Rheinberger was no ordinary person. Already an active bushwalker, he took up rockclimbing at the age of 37 and was a competent and safe climber.

Ice climbing was an activity which challenged him both mentally and physically and he led and participated in many trips to the Himalayas—in India, Pakistan, Nepal and Tibet. Successful climbs included Broad Peak (8047 metres) and it was while on this expedition that he risked his life to rescue a famous veteran climber from nearby K2, the world's second-highest peak. He was awarded the Order of Australia for his contribution to the successful Australian Bicentennial Everest Expedition.

Michael was an exceptional planner and organizer. His ambition to climb Mt Everest grew during the late 1980s and early 1990s and he undertook regular expeditions to the peak. His organizational and leadership skills were constantly being sought by expeditions from other countries and invitations to participate followed.

Michael was a complex and deep thinker who was also able to make a difficult situation seem less so through the use of a well-developed sense of humour.

It was on an American expedition to the North Ridge that Michael's dream of summiting Mt Everest was finally fulfilled. It is fitting that he remains at peace in the mountains. He was well loved and will be missed. ■

Monica and John Chapman



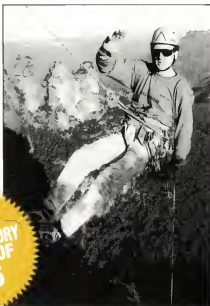
EXPERIENCE THE THRILL OF **ABSEILING** WITH **BLUE MOUNTAINS ROCKSPORTS**

- Strictly limited group sizes
- 4:1 student/instructor ratio
- Abseiling classes 45 minutes from Sydney or 10 minutes from Penrith
- All equipment, the best lunch and a certificate included
- Transport from Glenbrook Station

We run regular trips into the best Blue Mountains canyons from as little as \$45.

For more information,
phone (047) 53 6618
mobile 015 206 059

**SPECIAL
INTRODUCTORY
PRICE OF
\$55**



The Seven Summits ...and more.



Peregrine has climbing expeditions to the tallest summit in each continent:
Everest (Asia), Aconcagua (South America), Kilimanjaro (Africa), Elbrus (Europe), Vinson (Antarctica), Carstensz Pyramid (Australasia), McKinley (North America)... and more.

8,000 metres: Shishapangma, Cho Oyu (Tibet). 7,000 metres: Kanguru, Pumori (Nepal), Diran (Pakistan), Pik Korzhenevsky (Tadjikistan). 6,000 metres: Mera, Ramdung, Chulu West (Nepal).

High Altitude Trekking: Makalu to Everest Traverse, Kanchenjunga (Nepal), Everest Kanshung Face (Tibet), K2-Concordia (Pakistan), Chomolhari Base Camp (Bhutan).

For detailed information phone:
Melbourne (03) 663 8611, Sydney (02) 290 2770.
LIC 31009

Peregrine

GOING OVERSEAS?

The One Planet Bungle

Packs up to the size
of a loaf of bread!
Keeps you warm as toast.



Free
YHA silk
inner-sheet on
presentation of
this advertisement
Value \$65

Tapered rectangle
800 gr Superdown
Box-walled
Draught tube
Multicoloured
(No two bags the same)
Lifetime warranty
\$299

offer closes 1/12/94



401 Riversdale Road
Camberwell Junction
(300 metres City side)
Victoria 3123
Ph (03) 882 7229

Eastern Mountain Centre
THE INDEPENDENT SPECIALISTS

Corrections and amplifications

The people in the small photo on page 55 of *Wild* no 53 are named from right to left. The assertion in the Kimberley's Track Notes (page 77) that a lightweight sleeping-bag is all you will need has been questioned, the writer claiming to have experienced temperatures of 5°C or less in the region. The chilly skier in the *Wild* Shot was Tony Hunter.

VICTORIA

Fit enough?

Pavement-pounders, traffic-weavers and Yarra-paddlers will get a chance to combine their favourite fitness routines with some of Victoria's most spectacular country if they enter the Mountains to City Challenge in December. Six stages (two each of running, cycling and paddling) will wind their way from Mt Buller, through Eildon and Marysville, over the Black Spur to a finish in Melbourne. See *Wild* Diary for details.

TASMANIA

Thinking of linking

After a couple of false alarms, members of the Southern Cave Society have linked the extensive Juncus-Florentine cave Three-forty-one (JF341) with Rift Cave (JF34) after the former yielded three kilometres of new passage. News of the connection was circulated in caving circles prematurely after survey data had led members of an earlier trip to conclude that an undescribed pitch down which they were peering led to the adjacent cave. A descent of the pitch the following weekend revealed that the new passage in fact blanked out—just ten metres short of a connection! The caves were finally linked a week later, with the survey data predicting the closure with an error of only 0.4 per cent.

Earlier in the year Dave Rasch, Jeff Butt and Andrew McNeill discovered, explored and surveyed a major extension to Three-forty-one, named Into the Dinosaur. This find comes on the heels of the 1.7 kilometre extension Enterprise, the exploration of which was reported in *Wild* Information, *Wild* no 51.

The total surveyed length of this system is now 6.8 kilometres but it is expected that the final tally will be closer to eight kilometres. The recent discoveries make the Three-forty-one system the third-longest in Tasmania behind Exit Cave and Growling Swallow.

Jeff Butt

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Wild women

The Heysen Trail (see *The Long Walks* on page 36) is at present being tackled by women of all ages and abilities in the epic WomenTrek event. The relay-style trek, in which scores of participants will complete stages of the long-distance track, will be undertaken by women using everything from feet and wheelchairs to camels and horses. The event, which began on 23 July and will end with a celebration at the Mt Lofty botanical garden on 9 October, has been organized by women's groups and government health authorities to commemorate the centenary of the granting of women's suffrage in South Australia.

OVERSEAS

Mystery anniversary

This year marks the 70th anniversary of one of the most fascinating unsolved mysteries of the mountaineering world. On 8 June 1924 George Mallory and his fellow Englishman Andrew Irvine were observed climbing steadily only 300 metres from the summit of Mt Everest. Soon afterwards cloud obscured the mountain and the two were never seen again. A number of leading climbers at the time believed that Mallory and Irvine may have reached the summit before perishing on the descent. It wasn't until almost 30 years later, in 1953, that

Hillary and Tenzing were credited with reaching the top of the world's highest mountain. The disappearance of Mallory and Irvine and the speculation that surrounds the 1924 summit bid continue to arouse the curiosity of many of the world's mountaineers. Next February the 1995 American Mt Everest expedition will be retracing the footsteps—although it is to be hoped not the fatal ones—of Mallory and Irvine as a commemorative climb. Joining the expedition will be Melbourne resident, climber and grandson to Mallory, George Mallory II.

Glenn Tempest

Breaking new ground

In August and September this year, prominent Australian mountaineer and *Wild* Contributor Editor Greg Mortimer is leading an expedition sponsored by *Wild* to one of the world's highest unclimbed mountains—Chongiar (7350 metres) in the northern Karakoram not far from K2. Joining the four-member team will be legendary Australian rockclimber John Ewbank, recently retired from climbing. The team hopes to complete an alpine-style ascent of this heavily crevassed and avalanche-prone mountain by mid-September.

At about the same time a small group of Australian climbers will be attempting the first ascent of Chandra Parbat I. This 6739 metre peak lies on the Suralaya Glacier and is the highest unclimbed summit in the Gangotri region of India, which has until recently been closed to western climbers.

GT

Shipton-Tilman award

Shipton-based mountaineer Ken McConnell has become the first Australian to receive the prestigious Shipton-Tilman grant. McConnell, who has participated in 22 expeditions, will use the \$US6000 award to explore and attempt to climb the major unclimbed peak Chakragil (6800 metres) in the Kashgar Range in Central Asia.

Highest honour

New Zealander Rob Hall has been awarded an MBE for services to mountaineering in the most recent Queen's Birthday Honours list. In May this year Hall reached the summit of Everest for the second time and bagged neighbouring Lhotse (8511 metres) shortly after as part of a commercial expedition.

GW

Safer paddling

The sixth International White Water Safety Seminar will be held in North Wales (UK) during November. A great deal of information relating to current safety procedures and recent equipment developments for white-water canoeists will be available. The Australian representatives at the seminar hope to hold a national seminar in Canberra during 1995 to help to pass on knowledge gained at the international conference. Watch this space for further developments. ■

John Wilde

Readers' contributions to this department, including colour slides, are welcome. Typed items of less than 200 words are more likely to be printed. Send to the Editor, *Wild*, PO Box 415, Prahran, VIC 3181.

Wild Diary

Information about rucksack-sports events for publication in this department should be sent to the Editor, *Wild*, PO Box 415, Prahran, VIC 3181.

September	17	12-hour Rogaine	ACT	(06) 249 5597
		12-hour Spring R	SA	(08) 258 5696
	17-18	24-hour Spring R	Vic	(057) 74 7576
		Telefest S	NSW	(03) 720 4647
October	1-8	Spirit & Marathon C	Qld	(07) 405 0900
	4-7	Six & Outdoor Trade Show (trade only)	ACT	(03) 482 1206
	8-9	Introductory sea kayak course	NSW	(064) 94 1366
		Victorian Climbing Club (VCC) beginners' course (week one) RC	Vic	(03) 428 5298
	15-16	Australian Championships R	NSW	(042) 85 4053
	22	6-hour Spring R	Vic	(057) 74 7576
	22-29	Hawkesbury Classic Paddle C	NSW	(02) 520 5634
	29-31 Nov	Four Peaks Climb B	Vic	(057) 55 1507
November		Basic skills instructor course C	NSW	(02) 955 6908
	4-6	AICGA Adrenalize Open competition C	Vic	(018) 324 336
	5-6	Proficiency testing C	NSW	(02) 809 6993
		VCC beginners' course (week two) RC	Vic	(03) 428 5298
	12	12-hour Spring R	Vic	(057) 74 7576
	13	Third Victorian Mountain Running Championships	Vic	(057) 74 7576
	26-27	VCC beginners' course (week three) RC	Vic	(03) 428 5298
December	3-4	Sea kayak proficiency	NSW	(064) 93 5035
		Mountains to City Challenge M	Vic	(052) 61 4686
	27-31	Red Cross Murray Marathon C	Vic	(03) 885 9813

1995

February	10-11	Spirit's Coast to Coast M	NZ	(64 3) 26 5493
	19	6-hour Autumn R	Vic	(057) 74 7576
	April	8-9 VCC beginners' course (week one) RC	Vic	(03) 428 5298
	15-22	Canoe Polo	Vic	(03) 482 2115
	22-23	VCC beginners' course (week two) RC	Vic	(03) 428 5298
	22-25	Escalade 95 mountain festival C	NSW	(047) 87 1480
May	6-7	VCC beginners' course (week three) RC	Vic	(03) 428 5298
	14-15	Australian Championships R	Vic	(06) 249 5597

B bushwalking C canoeing R rogaine RC rockclimbing M multisports S sailing

BEAT THE COLD



EVERWARM

**POLYPROPYLENE UNI-SEX
THERMAL UNDERWEAR**

Meraklon® POLYPROPYLENE FIBRE

Australian Distributor

Reflex Sports Phone 02-907 9488 Fax 02-907 0164



CLEANING UP OUR ACT

International action to clean up wild places

Fouling our own nest

The *Union Internationale des Associations d'Alpinisme* (UIAA), the umbrella organization covering the world's mountaineering and climbing bodies, has established a Mountain Protection Commission to monitor and attack the problems associated with recreational use of mountain areas. The commission's first programme will target the issue of rubbish disposal by climbing and trekking parties, a problem which has reached enormous proportions in many of the world's most spectacular mountain regions, including the much publicized pollution of parts of the Himalayas. Many *Wild* readers will be aware of the disgraceful legacy of discarded food, equipment, toilet waste, contaminated medical supplies and even human remains that now litter the highest mountains of the world, a number of which have been subject to grandiose—and largely ineffectual—attempts to clean them up. For every climber active on a major mountain, however, there must be scores of trekkers—and hundreds of locals whose livelihoods are increasingly dependent on the tourist dollar—in the valleys below, all placing their own stresses on the fragile environments through which they pass. It is a seemingly insoluble coincidence that the popularity of trekking and climbing environments is directly related to their fragility and remoteness.

But the environmental impact of recreational wilderness users is not restricted to exotic foreign locales. In the Gear Survey on water purification methods in this issue of *Wild* the growing problem of contaminated water in Australia's mountains is discussed. The worrying problem of giardia is rapidly spreading throughout Australia's most popular outdoor destinations—and not just in the vicinity of 'day-trip' camping grounds and picnic areas. Both the Australian Alps and Tasmania's rugged Western Arthur Range are feeling the increasing pressure of 'wilderness walkers', and discarded cans, tin foil and plastic are becoming ubiquitous at bush campsites.

The Mountain Protection Commission's target programme 'Waste Disposal and Avoiding Trash' addresses these issues by recommending such commonsense steps as travelling lighter, planning for the removal of problem waste, and proper toilet practices. An alternative approach to such self-regulation is the sinister possibility of regulation and restriction of our wilderness activities by governments and other authorities; a tightly controlled permit system already operates for many of the most popular walking tracks in New Zealand and similar controls are on the agenda in Tasmania (see later item). While few would question the need to restrict the number of walkers passing through these delicate areas, one wonders whether such moves could be delayed—or even rendered

unnecessary—elsewhere by the informed, conscientious actions of everyone who ventures into the bush.

Green tourism's 'free ride'

The Australian Conservation Foundation has attacked the tourism industry for getting a 'free ride' on the back of environmentalists' efforts to protect Australian wilderness. The Vice-president of the ACF, Penny Figgis, has pointed out that many of the Australian tourist industry's top draw-cards—such as Kakadu and the Queensland wet tropics—were won through long and bitter campaigns by environmentalists and without any assistance from tourism operators or organizations.

Now that the industry is reaping the benefits of these victories, the ACF believes that it should stand up and be counted as an ally of the environmental movement in attempting to improve the management of these areas and win protection for further slices of wilderness rather than restrict itself to merely packaging and marketing existing assets.

Recycled paper thrown out

Australian Paper, the company formed by last September's merger of APM and APPM, has reportedly withdrawn both of its 100 per cent recycled, unbleached printing papers from sale. Plans for a 200 000 tonnes per annum paper recycling mill at Shoalhaven have also reportedly been scrapped.

Australian Paper's parent company Amcor now holds a virtual monopoly on the Australian paper manufacturing, distribution, stationery, greeting card, and packaging market. See Action Box item 1.

Greenpeace changes

The International Executive Director of Greenpeace, Australian Paul Gilding, resigned in May after policy differences with the board of Greenpeace International. Gilding, who was formerly the head of Greenpeace Australia, is believed to have disagreed with the board over the speed of ongoing reform in the structure of the organization.

Locally, Greenpeace is to wind up its door-knock canvassing operations, which have been uneconomic and increasingly ineffective in winning donations and new members.

QUEENSLAND

'Skyrail' to go ahead

The controversial Cairns-Kuranda Skyrail cable-car project in the Barron Gorge National Park is to go ahead after the federal Environment Minister John Faulkner approved the project in May. Opponents of the scheme had been hoping for Federal Government intervention to stop the project,



Monica Chapman does her bit to clean up our wild places, Mt Howitt, Victoria. John Chapman

which is to run through World Heritage protected rain forest. The People Against Kuranda Skyrail intend to blockade construction of the cable-car, which was due to begin in July. See Action Box item 2.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Coffs Harbour ocean outfall

Coffs Harbour residents and environmentalists have been engaged in a three-year battle with the Coffs Harbour City Council and the Department of Public Works over plans to build a sewage outfall at Look-at-me-now Headland, Emerald Beach. The outfall is intended to dispose of sewage from the Northern Beaches area of Coffs Harbour.

The area surrounding the headland is an important confluence between waters from the tropics and the colder Southern Ocean, each with their typical marine species; it marks the most southerly extent of significant coral growth on the east coast and is part of the Solitary Islands Marine Reserve. The headland also abuts the Moonee Beach Nature Reserve, making it one of the most highly protected areas along that strip of coast. In addition, the local Aboriginal Land Council has identified a number of sites of cultural significance on the headland.

The headland was purchased a number of years ago by the State Government so that it could be included in the reserve; instead, an easement has been declared through which

Bunyip Boots



**THE GREAT OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE...
WITH BUNYIPS**



205 Gipps Street
PO Box 5, Abbotstord
Victoria 3067, Australia
Phone: (03) 417 2122
Fax: (03) 416 0830



the pipeline will run. Initial work on the outfall was halted two and a half years ago following the arrest of over 200 people at protests against the scheme and a court decision that the local council had contravened its own environmental plan. The land was subsequently rezoned and, despite overwhelming objections submitted to an environmental impact statement and Commission of Inquiry, the project is to go ahead.

More old-growth forest to get the chop

Environment groups were outraged at the granting in July of an interim export wood-chip licence to Boral Ltd's sawmilling subsidiary, which will take the wood from forests which include designated wilderness areas in north-east NSW. The granting of the interim licence by federal Resources Minister David Beddall, precedes a decision on whether or not to issue an extended one-year licence.



The Coalition Against Ocean Outfalls and the Friends of Look-at-me-now, who are co-ordinating opposition to the project, have won the support of the likes of Tasmanian Green Bob Brown, Ian Kiernan of Clean Up Australia and former federal Environment Minister Graeme Richardson. See Action Box item 3.

Blue Mountains falls threatened

Environmental protection measures in the Blue Mountains are in tatters after the Land and Environment Court approved the development of a huge, 'warehouse-like' building over the headwaters of the famous Mini Ha Ha Falls in Katoomba. Despite overwhelming opposition from residents and the Blue Mountains City Council, the court has approved the construction of a 600-seat church and adjoining 148-space car-park over swamp land that feeds the Yosemite Creek, of which the falls are a part.

The decision is seen as a major blow to the Blue Mountains Local Environment Plan 1991 and an extraordinary slight to local planners, councillors and residents, almost all of whom opposed the church's construction.

Jervis Bay victory

Environmentalists welcomed the Federal Government's decision in April not to recommend Jervis Bay as its preferred site for the relocation of the Royal Australian Navy's armaments depot. Following the decision, the government announced its intention to include 6000 hectares of bushland and private land adjacent to the bay in a new park and rehabilitate land degraded by private use and four-wheel-driving.

A month earlier, the State minister responsible for the forestry industry, George Souris, had declared that he would introduce 'resource security' legislation covering NSW hardwood exploitation to State Parliament in September. This move came despite the demise of similar legislation at federal level and evidence from other States that this approach does nothing to encourage value adding or to protect forestry jobs.

Wild Spaces

The Wilderness Society will hold its second annual *Wild Spaces* meeting in early November. The programme, which last year included guest speakers and a video launch, is likely to focus on the Lake Pedder and Warragamba Dam issues. See Action Box item 4.

VICTORIA

Going soft on native logging

Timber production in softwood plantations is growing rapidly but the potential economic benefits of this trend are being ignored by the government, according to Judy Clark of Environment Victoria (formerly the Conservation Council of Victoria). A meeting of representatives of environmental and other interest groups, including Tasmanian Green Bob Brown, heard that growth of the softwood plantation industry will certainly outstrip woefully inadequate government projections and provide opportunities for new jobs and regional development. (See the Editorial in *Wild* no 49.)

At present, 30 per cent of Australia's sawn timber is imported from New Zealand. Local softwood plantations could easily replace this

supply and continue to eat into markets now dominated by native hardwood. The economics of farming timber in plantations make this approach dramatically cheaper than continuing to log native old-growth forests. This has been reflected by the steady decline of the native forest industry over the past 20 years in contrast to growing investment in softwood plantations.

In late May, a report by economic consultants BIS Shrapnel indicated that the softwood industry in NSW would continue to provide jobs and revenue to rural communities long after native forest logging had become uneconomic. (The economics of softwood plantation logging were described in some detail in the Editorial in *Wild* no 49.)

Governments, however, appear to be so intent on continuing to support the faltering native forest industry that they are failing to capitalize on the impending boom in softwood plantations. Throughout May, Victorian Environment Minister Mark Birrell engaged in protracted argument with Green representatives in the Letters column of the Melbourne Age over the economics of native forest logging, continuing to ignore the findings of the State Auditor-general which indicated that support for the industry was costing the State millions of dollars annually.

Facts emerge on log downgrading

Almost half the hardwood logs coming from Victoria's native forests are incorrectly

Action Box

Readers can take action on the following matters covered in Green Pages in this issue.

1 Write to Don McFarlane, Managing Director, Amcor Paper Group, 626 Heidelberg Rd, Alphington, Vic 3078. Also write to federal Environment Minister John Faulkner, Parliament House, Canberra, ACT 2600.

2 For further information, contact Melissa on (070) 53 3735 or write to PAKS at PO Box 664, Smithfield, Qld 4878.

3 For further information, write to the Coalition Against Ocean Outfalls, 41 Dammerel Cres, Emerald Beach, NSW 2456 or join Friends of Look-at-me-now, 57 Dammerel Cres, Emerald Beach, NSW 2456.

4 Contact the Wilderness Society on (02) 267 7929.

5 For further information, contact the Victorian National Parks Association on (03) 650 8296.

6 The Mt Stirling Development Task Force, which is co-ordinating opposition to the government's plans, can be contacted through Alan Kerr on (057) 75 2994 after hours.

7 The Residents Opposed to the Cable Car can be contacted at 102 Bathurst St, Hobart, Tas 7000.

8 Interested mainland walkers can write to John Chapman, GPO Box 598D, Melbourne, Vic 3001.

9 For more information, contact Noni Keys at the Greenpeace Pacific Campaign office in Canberra on (06) 257 6516.

Everything you need for Outdoor Survival



TATONKA TRAVEL PACKS



CITY BOUND

Material: 500D Cordura
Weight: 2.4kg
Back Length: 50cm
Capacity: 45 ltr expands to 55 ltr
Colours: Ink, Jasper



CARGO BAG

Material: 500D Cordura
Weight: 2.9kg
Back Length: 61cm
Capacity: 80 ltr total
Colours: Black, Jasper



INTERRAIL

Material: 500D Cordura
Weight: 2.6kg
Back Length: 55cm
Capacity: 65 ltr
Colours: Black, Eggplant

For further information contact:

OUTDOOR SURVIVAL

6 Dunn Cres. Dandenong Vic 3175

WE'VE GOT PROOF

Nikwax waterproofing treatments are unsurpassed in performance.

Protection and caring for the world's environment, the Nikwax range of aqueous-based products are designed for waterproofing today's leathers and fabrics.

FOOTWEAR TREATMENTS



Conditions and waterproofs with a durable, breathable coating. Aqueous Water-Based treatments can be used on wet or dry leather and fabric.

- WATERPROOFING WAX
- CONDITIONING WAX
- AQUEOUS NIKWAX
- AQUEOUS FABRIC & LEATHER
- AQUEOUS NUBUCK & SUEDE

WATER-BASE TREATMENTS FOR FABRICS



POLARPROOF

Enhances the water-resistance of synthetic clothing and sleeping bags.

TX-DIRECT

For renewing the water-repellent finish on waterproof/breathable fabrics.



Distributed by

OUTDOOR SURVIVAL

6 Dunn Crescent, Dandenong Vic 3175



TATONKA RUCKSACKS



"KIMBERLY TRIO"

KIMBERLY 50

Material: 500D Cordura
Bottom: Reinforced with 1000D Cordura
Weight: 2.2kg
Back Length: 55cm
Capacity: 50 ltr + 8 ltr
Colours: Lilac/Ink, Lilac/Black

KIMBERLY 60

Material: 500D Cordura
Bottom: Reinforced with 1000D Cordura
Weight: 2.3kg
Back Length: 60cm
Capacity: 60 ltr + 8 ltr
Colours: Eggplant/Ink, Eggplant/Black

KIMBERLY 70

Material: 500D Cordura
Bottom: Reinforced with 1000D Cordura
Weight: 2.4kg
Back Length: 64cm
Capacity: 70 ltr + 8 ltr
Colours: Jasper/Ink, Jasper/Black

V2-SYSTEM



Ultimate in comfortable back-systems. The V2 systems with its installed aluminium bars provides good stability and load distribution. The velcro fastener system makes it possible to adjust the shoulder harness to fit different back lengths.

For further information contact:

OUTDOOR SURVIVAL

6 Dunn Cres. Dandenong Vic 3175

graded, a State Government audit revealed in June. Of these, most are downgraded to become wood-chip fodder, some 'for no apparent reason' according to the report. Methods of grading logs were painted as woefully inadequate.

The Wilderness Society's Fenella Barry described the findings as proof that pressure from the wood-chip industry is causing quality saw-logs to be wrongly graded in order to feed the industry's demand for low-grade logs. It called for the cancellation of export wood-chipping licences and a complete overhaul of the way in which native forests are managed.

The government, which is already propping up the native forest industry by millions of dollars every year, was denied up to \$1 million a year in royalties by the misgrading.



The Wilderness Society's Victorian campaign co-ordinator, Fenella Barry. Julian Meehan

Forest discord

An aircraft belonging to famous jazz musician Vince Jones was probably vandalized in June, an incident linked to Jones's outspoken stance on logging in East Gippsland, where the trumpeter/singer lives.

Iron filings, which could have caused an accident, were found in the oil filter of Jones's private plane at the same time as the message 'Greens cost jobs' appeared on the windscreens of his car.

Carrot and the stick

The Wilderness Society has condemned plans by the Department of Conservation & Natural Resources to poison wallabies identified by the DCNR as responsible for low regeneration rates in clear-felled logging coupes in East Gippsland. The society asserts that less than 12 per cent of seedling deaths are the result of cropping by wallabies and that the poor regeneration rates—as low as 20 per cent—are the result of bad management practices.

A DCNR internal document which recently studied the problem of poor regeneration rates pointed the finger not at hungry wallabies but at '...deficiencies in coupe scheduling and supervision, inadequate 'single recipe' silvicultural techniques and operational inflexibilities arising from wood supply contractual arrangements and annual budget cycles' (Wild's italics).

In June, endangered Orbost spiny crayfish were discovered in East Gippsland's Ellery

Creek, where logging is to proceed shortly. Despite assurances by the DCNR that a two kilometre long, 100 metre wide buffer zone will be left around the creek, there are concerns about the effect logging-related siltation and increased run-off will have on the creatures, which have only been identified on two previous occasions.

Uncontrolled burns

On 27 April ABC Radio reported that two bushfires had been started in the Grampians when officially sanctioned 'controlled burns' became uncontrolled. Custodian of the Grampians National Park, the DCNR, managed to torch 6000 hectares of bush in the Moora Reservoir area while a separate fire, reportedly started on private property, consumed a further 2000 hectares in the Black Range.

Another DCNR fire, this time near Bemm River in East Gippsland, burnt out of control for a week in March. This came just days after a pitched battle by a Cann River resident to prevent forest adjoining her property from being burnt by DCNR officers—who had reportedly just assured her that the forest in question was on a 14-year burn cycle—for the fourth time since 1980.

Corporate trendiness

One feature of recent years has been the apparently miraculous transformation of just about every Victorian government department from idle and wasteful bureaucracy to high-flying corporate superstardom. Our own DCNR has not been slow to mount this turbo-charged, mobile-phone-equipped bandwagon.

Its 1993-96 Corporate Plan shows that the DCNR is pushing to develop and market our bush as a tourist commodity. In this connection, it uses comfortably ambiguous phrases such as 'provision of improved access' and 'infrastructure developments linked with the natural environment'. Of even greater concern, however, are more specific proposals: 'Opportunities...for external funding from the private sector (eg sponsorship) will be identified and pursued'—Wilsons Promontory National Park to be renamed McDonalds Theme Park and Mt Bogong renamed Mt Melbourne Bitter, perhaps? We are promised more walking tracks and other facilities in National Parks and reserves and 'implementation of a targeted program of upgrading road and track access to enhance the range of opportunities for car-based (4WD, 2WD) touring and enjoyment of the parks...Development of appropriate visitor facilities, including cabin accommodation associated with long distance trails and walking tracks...[and] business plans prepared for key parks.'

Degradation without consultation

The Victorian Government is seeking to 'fast track' plans to build a radio tower on Mt Kent, one of the most significant and unspoiled peaks in the Victorian Alps. Close to Snowy Bluff and Moroka Gorge in the Wonnagatta-Moroka region, Mt Kent has been an important bushwalking destination for decades. A similar tower is planned for nearby Minogues Look-out, near Bryces Gorge. The

government has sought to justify the towers on the grounds that they are needed to improve rescue communications. See Action Box item 5.

Mountaineers for Mt Stirling

On the wet night of 24 June a capacity audience of 300 turned out in Melbourne and paid \$10 a head to register their opposition to the proposed development of Mt Stirling as a downhill ski resort, as reported in *Wild* no 53. They heard an all-star cast of speakers—Peter Hillary, Graeme Joy, Tim Macartney-Snape and Eric Phillips—who spoke passionately of the need to preserve Mt Stirling. The speakers donated their time to the meeting; the compère was *Wild* Managing Editor, Chris Baxter.

The controversy over the secrecy with which development proposals were concocted has continued, with Fol documents revealing that Tourism Victoria and the Alpine Resorts Commission collaborated to keep news of the latest proposals for Mt Stirling from leaking out in the lead-up to Mansfield council elections.

Meanwhile, the Ski Touring Association of Victoria has been deafening in its silence over the Mt Stirling wrangle. It seems extraordinary that after almost 20 years of speculation about a downhill resort on the mountain—plenty of time, one would think, in which to decide on a position—the STAV seems to have so little to say about the planned, and well publicized, destruction of one of the State's premier ski touring assets.

Attention has also been drawn to the final recommendations of the Land Conservation Council's 1979 and 1983 investigations into land use in Victoria's alpine areas, which assert that development of Mt Stirling should not be considered until resorts such as Mt Buller have been developed to optimum capacity—something which has not yet occurred and, given recent trends in visitor numbers, is never likely to be economic. See Action Box item 6 for further information.

Whose mountain?

Ski instructors have reportedly been banned from instructing their pupils within the ARC-controlled resort area at Falls Creek. Instructors using the popular and convenient Nordic Bowl have been told to take themselves and their charges all the way to the far side of the Rocky Valley Dam wall. Serious concerns have been raised at the safety of the decision, given the danger posed to novice pupils returning from this relatively exposed location in foul weather. Two 'authorized' instruction schools are the only exceptions to this 'no-instruction' dictate.

The ARC has apparently further decreed that cross-country skiers headed for the high country beyond the resort must *remove their skis and walk* across the ARC 'compound' or pay the \$7.00 trail fee that applies to all groomed trails in Victoria.

Wilderness Gear Show

The Wilderness Society will be presenting The Outdoor Gear Show at Box Hill Town Hall on 13 November. The show, the first of its kind, will feature exhibits by outdoor retailers, adventure travel vendors and bushwalking



THE BATTLE TO CLEAN UP OUR PLANET

ARE YOU A WARRIOR AGAINST WASTE?

JUST IMAGINE WALKING
AROUND IN A JACKET MADE
FROM 25 PLASTIC DRINK
BOTTLES! IT WILL FEEL
LUXURIOUSLY SOFT,
COMFORTABLY WARM, BE
FAST DRYING AND HAVE ALL
THE HIGH PERFORMANCE
CHARACTERISTICS YOU
EXPECT FROM AN OUTDOOR
FLEECE GARMENT MADE
BY KATHMANDU.



FRANKLIN JACKET

Like its wilderness namesake, the Franklin River in South-west Tasmania, we hope this jacket will be an enduring environmental statement. It may not match the grandeur and natural beauty of the magnificent Franklin River but it won't hurt the environment and it won't let you down on performance or style. A generous cut with two zip-closure hand-warming pockets plus chest pocket. Half-lined in front to keep out chill winds and self-cuffed at waist and wrist with our warmest ECOFLEECE 300 fabric.

Colours: *aubergine/spruce, dark teal/ink, olive/aubergine, ink/olive*

Sizes: *S M L XL*

Price **\$169.50**



MARMOT JUMPER

This is an ECOFLEECE 200 classic T-neck jumper to which we've added several useful features — a zip chest pocket and snug hand-warmer pockets. Like the marmot, this is a furly warm, active critter of a jumper, offering lightweight warmth and a comfortable, loose fit that makes it a great choice for any active outdoor person concerned about the environment.

Colours: *amethyst, jasper, garnet*

Sizes: *S M L XL*

Price **\$139.50**

ECOFLEECE fabric uses everyday waste to make an extraordinary product. It's made from 89% post-consumer recycled polyester fibre, sourced from granulated plastic PET bottles. The recycled polyester fibre is knitted into an ECOFLEECE fabric which has the same warmth and durability as virgin polyester fleece.

Purchasing a Kathmandu ECOFLEECE jacket or jumper helps protect the environment, while you enjoy the benefits of the best kind of modern technology. Garments made from ECOFLEECE not only have the high performance characteristics to keep you warm, dry and comfortable but are also a significant step towards cleaning up the planet and enabling us to live in an ecologically sustainable way. Every hour there are 2.5 million plastic beverage bottles discarded in the USA!

The environmental performance of ECOFLEECE is supported by Scientific Certification Systems, which is the USA's main watchdog for certification of environmental claims and procedures. They give the EcoSpun™ fibre from which ECOFLEECE fabric is made a resounding thumbs-up in their evaluation.

Initially, Kathmandu is introducing two styles in the ECOFLEECE fabric but we eventually hope to have most of our extensive range of fleece clothing and thermal underwear made from recycled fibre.

Fabric content:
89% Fortrel® EcoSpun™
11% Fortrel® Polyester
Fortrel® and EcoSpun™
are trademarks of
Wollman Inc. USA.
Ecofleece is a trademark of
Kathmandu Ltd.

For more information
about ECOFLEECE or a
Kathmandu catalogue
please contact our mail
order departments.



MELBOURNE

373 Little Bourke St
Melbourne Vic 3000
Ph (03) 642 1942

BOX HILL

13 Market St
Box Hill Vic 3128
Ph/Fax (03) 890 1130

FITZROY

WAREHOUSE OUTLET
161 Smith St
Fitzroy Vic 3065
Ph (03) 419 1868

CANBERRA

Shop CG04, Canberra Centre
City Walk, Civic ACT 2601
Ph (06) 252 5926

SYDNEY

Town Hall Arcade
Cnr Kent & Bathurst Sts
Ph (02) 261 8901

BRISBANE

144 Wickham St
Fortitude Valley Qld 4006
Ph (07) 252 8054

AUSTRALIAN

MAIL ORDER
161 Smith St
Fitzroy Vic 3065
Ph (03) 419 1868
Toll Free 1 800 333 484
Fax (03) 416 2286

NITMILUK (Katherine Gorge) NATIONAL PARK

EXPERIENCE THE WONDER OF THE WET



The tracks described elsewhere in this issue are easy to follow in the Dry, not so in the Wet. The land bursts into bloom, a year's growth compressed into a few months. Small dry creeks turn into torrents. Waterfalls spring to life. Only someone with an intimate knowledge of the park can take you off the track and show you the hidden gorges and waterfalls that the winter tourists never see.

Join us next February for the most exciting Nitmiluk expedition we have ever offered and see the spectacular sights which simply don't exist during the rest of the year.

For full details of our 1994-95 program, contact:



Willis's Walkabouts
12 Carrington Street
Millner NT 0810
Tel: (089) 85 2134
Fax: (089) 85 2355

clubs as well as slide shows and other activities. If you wish to exhibit, or want further details, contact Janice Lane at the Wilderness Society on (03) 670 5229.

TASMANIA

(Another) World Heritage feud

New federal Environment Minister John Faulkner raised the ire of the Tasmanian logging industry and the Tasmanian Labor Party by declaring his intention to extend World Heritage Areas in Tasmania and phase out export wood-chipping by the turn of the century. The ability of the minister to turn these intentions—which were part of his positively if cautiously accepted environmental statement in late June—into action remains to be seen.

Keenly contested

Opponents of increasingly shaky but still kicking State Government proposals to encourage the construction of a cable-car up the scenic slopes of the Mt Wellington Organ Pipes have enlisted the help of another of Hobart's major landmarks. The 100-year-old 'Keens Curry' sign—composed of arranged, white-painted rocks—that adorns a hillside above South Hobart has been temporarily seconded to the cause. See photo, and Action Box item 7 for more information.

Grant Dixon

Pedder saved?

An international campaign to restore the drowned Lake Pedder, scene of Australia's first national conservation battle and once the jewel in Tasmania's wilderness crown, was launched by British conservationist David Bellamy and Tasmania's Bob Brown on 18 April. See the Lake Pedder article in this issue.

Tasmanian walking track proposals

A public consultation meeting was held on 10 July at Ross in central Tasmania to discuss the Proposed Walking Track Management Strategy Plan for the World Heritage Area. About 30 people attended, mostly bushwalkers who provided some lively and informative debate about current track usage and the future of the walking tracks in Tasmania, some of which are showing considerable signs of erosion. Most agreed that restrictions on numbers will be needed in some areas and a permit system was proposed to achieve this aim.

Those present were also asked to nominate representatives for a Working Party whose major task will be to decide how and where to impose restrictions and, if needed, a permit system. A wide diversity of interests will be represented including two mainland bushwalkers. I was proposed as one of them. Independent mainland bushwalkers can write directly to me if they wish to have some involvement and input into the process. The other mainland walker will represent bushwalking clubs.

While permits are likely to be introduced, the National Parks Service is to be commended for involving the interest groups so that at least an equitable and sensible system for users can be designed and implemented. See Action Box item 8.

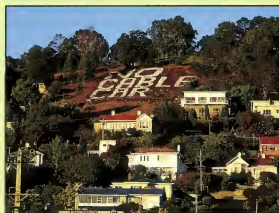
John Chapman

GREEN PAGES

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Sell out?

The State Government has conceded that South Australia's parks and reserves are underfunded, but is considering boosting revenue by imposing 'user levies' or even selling some parks. A government report recommended that an urgent audit be made of the State's natural reserves. Possible revenue-raising measures proposed in the report included levies on outdoor recreation equipment and the sale of land with 'little or no conservation value'.



Visible opposition to the Mt Wellington cable-car on a South Hobart hillside. *Grant Dixon*

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Forest blockade

Members of the Wilderness Society and the Western Australian Forest Alliance imposed a blockade on forestry operations in old-growth forest in the vicinity of Pemberton in the State's south-west in July. This is the first time opponents of wood-chip exploitation of these unique forests have taken such direct action in WA.

OVERSEAS

AIDS and the forest

Chemical compounds that may be able to halt the spread of the HIV virus have been identified in samples taken from the bintangor tree which lives in the forests of the Malaysian State of Sarawak. The Sarawak forests have been the subject of enormous controversy over tropical timber logging, opponents of which have continued to point out the enormous potential for the discovery of new drugs in these huge bioresources.

Like parent, like child?

A recent report into forestry practices in Papua New Guinea has shown that the industry is riddled with corruption and unaccountable forest practices. A PNG judicial inquiry described the logging industry as 'rapacious' and warned that the country's vast forests could be logged out within ten years. See Action Box item 9. ■

Readers' contributions to the department, including colour slides, are welcome. Typed items of less than 200 words are more likely to be printed. Send to the Editor, Wild, PO Box 415, Prahran, Vic 3181.

**Made to take you
all the way to the top.**



KAKADU SHORTS.



KOMBI PANTS
(zip off legs).



ON LOCATION JACKET
(zip off sleeves).



COTTON CLUB SHIRT.



POLOSHIRT.



PHOTOJOURNALIST VEST.

Every item of Thomas Cook Adventure Clothing has been specifically designed for total, easy wearing comfort. So no matter where your body and spirit takes you in the world of daring and adventure, you'll find this clothing provides unrestricted movement combined with all the practical features you could ever want or need.

If you have a desire to go all the way to the top, then Thomas Cook Adventure Clothing is the way to go.

For your nearest Thomas Cook Adventure Clothing stockist phone: Melbourne (03) 894 1277, Sydney (02) 212 6616

MELBOURNE: 246 Whitehorse Road, Nunawading, Victoria 3131
60 Hoddle Street, Abbotsford, Victoria 3067
SYDNEY: 790 George Street, Haymarket, New South Wales 2000



100% AUSTRALIAN OWNED.

STOVE FREE!

Leave your stove behind, and eat better in the bush; by Rob Blakers



As you squeezed billies, stove and fuel-bottle into an already overbrimming pack; or as you juggled and struggled with spitting, bubbling, boiling-hot water and ever expanding loads of dehydrates in the steamy, dripping vestibule of your tent; or as you emerged from another lengthy meal preparation to catch yet again just the last glimmerings of the fantastic sunset that, head down in your pots, you just missed, did you ever wonder: Do I *really* need all this cooking stuff?

The answer, of course, is that you don't.

A wonderful array of tasty, sustaining, lightweight and quickly prepared goodies awaits the stoveless camper. Stove free works for lots of reasons. You save time; in the mornings to be up and about; at noon to walk/ski/swim/photograph/admire; and in the evening to relax or explore. You save weight and space, and your meals may well be more delicious, imaginative and nutritious.

And there are no greasy saucepans the next morning! Stove free is particularly well suited to the cooler regions and seasons in Australia, where the extra crispy, crunchy, fresh delicacies—which can now be fitted into your pack upon expulsion of the old stove and pans—keep fresher longer.

The basic principles of stoveless camping are the same as for cooking camping. The foods you carry should be tasty, nutritionally balanced and contain a minimum of water. The difference comes in selecting those foods which will rehydrate without needing to be cooked, or which can be eaten as they are.

The best way to illustrate the possibilities of camping without a stove is to present a list of suggestions. By no means exhaustive, this list may be added to, mixed and matched according to your own circumstances, region, preferences and unlimited imagination. (Have a browse round the shelves of a good whole-foods shop—lots of possibilities there!)

You, too, will be laughing at the prospect of leaving your stove at home and getting stuck into some of these healthy goodies. Rob Blakers

The list that follows is in a very general 'meal-wise' order, but you may (like me) occasionally incline more to a lighter, more easily digestible 'breakfast' in the evening, or to a more sustainably hearty 'dinner' in the morning in preparation for a big day ahead in the mountains.

One note: base your nutrition on whole foods of substance. In particular, take foods containing complex carbohydrates, fats and proteins. As far as possible, avoid or minimize sugar and other sweet things (commercial muesli bars, chocolate). Such foods, and especially those containing refined sugar, give you a *short*, unbalancing burst of energy but then leave you listless and tired; a condition at best uncomfortable, and at worst potentially dangerous in a survival situation.

Another Kind of Extreme

There's more to dressing for hot weather than undressing. Patagonia has developed Air Conditioned clothes nearly as technical as clothes made for the cold and wet, and as comfortable as a birthday suit without compromising modesty, custom or the health of your skin.

For a free 120-page catalogue of our complete line of technical clothing, layering systems and sportswear, call

1-800-066-625

or visit our new store in Australia at
493 Kent St., Sydney
(OPEN 20 OCTOBER 1994)

Photo: ANDY ANDERSON © Patagonia, Inc. 1994



PACKS BY

HIKING AUSTRALIA

The inherent waterproofing of our canvas (BIRKMYRE ULTRA PROOF 12) is the **FIRST DEFENCE** against the elements.

The **SECOND DEFENCE** is our unique canvas-binding process. This technique replaces the standard nylon binding tapes that often contain residual wetting agents that can leach into the canvas leading to leakages. A canvas-bound seam prevents leakage.

Strength and durability are **designed** and proudly **manufactured** into our products.

Webbing is attached with multiple lines of straight sewing over-sewn with a zigzag lock-stitch (bar-tacking), it is then sewn into a seam with a twin-needle lock-stitch machine, reversing over the webbing. This process creates a multi-directional, reinforced seam.

Our packs contain many other practical, high-quality features. Take the time to stick your head into one of our packs; zip the **YKK** zips, buckle the **NATIONAL MOULDINGS** buckles, look at the internal pocket seams, feel the comfort of our **CONICALLY ADJUSTING HARNESS SYSTEM**.

Further details regarding our products are contained in our catalogue, available from Mountain Designs, Scout Outdoor Centres and Snowgum stores. Staff at these stores can also help you with any questions that you may have.

Photo Glenn van der Knijff

WOMAN



The merest beginnings of a stoveless cuisine

Cereals

From Vita-Brits to bran-flakes, rice-bubbles (whole grain, of course) to dried, sprouted barley grain or heavy-duty, pre-soakable muesli. Try also couscous—absolutely delicious. (This needs soaking for a few hours, but no cooking is required.) Couscous can be sweet or savoury depending on what you add to it.

Milk powders

There's more to milk than meets the eye. As well as cow's milk (full cream or skim), try soy milk (several varieties are available—all taste entirely different), coconut milk or malted milk (a sweet one). Mix them.

Carob powder

A little like cocoa—though higher in protein—without caffeine, and naturally just a little sweet. Add it to the different varieties of milk.

Lecithin

This comes from the soy bean. A natural emulsifier; tasty when sprinkled lightly on cereals.

Soy grits

A little plain by themselves, but a very high protein addition (soaked) to a milky breakfast.

Dried fruits

Not too sweet. Anything from banana to fig to mango and papaw. Soak in a cup of water overnight for a morning fruit juice.

Nuts

The lot (according to budget)! Try pre-roasted sunflower seeds and pepitas (pumpkin seeds). When pre-roasting, just brown lightly then, while still hot, add a little soy sauce to taste.

Breads

Of all descriptions. Whole wheat, rye, sour dough, pumpernickel, oatmeal, savoury cornbread, fruit breads and raisin loaves, flat breads and bread rolls. Wholemeal croissants and doughnuts! Hot cross buns in season. Bring a variety on any trip.

Dry crackers and biscuits

Zillions are available—try them all. Rye crackers, rice cakes (carob-coated rice cakes are particularly scrumptious).

Spreads

Tahini (sesame paste), peanut butter... cashew butter! Margarine or butter, miso, Vegemite, chutneys, rice malt, maple syrup and other sweet spreads.

Fresh fruit

Not too much of this; just for the crunchiness. According to taste and season. Organic is tastier, more nutritious and stays fresh longer.

Fresh vegetables

For instance, tomato, lettuce, capsicum, cucumber, carrot. Select as for fruits. Maybe just a stove-weight's worth.

Spreads

Alfalfa, mung, lentils—the ultimate in freshness! Keep wrapped up in muslin and rinse daily, or more often if hot.

Cheeses

Of all varieties. Don't forget cream cheeses, cottage cheese or soy cheese.

Corn chips

Or even potato chips! They weigh nothing and are a nice change.

Savoury loaves

Pre-cooked meal foundations. Constructed at home and kept cool. A chewy mix of, for example, crumbled tofu, tomato paste, wheat germ, tahini, nuts, miso, herbs to taste and a little gluten or soy flour and water to hold it all together.

Cakes and biscuits

Real cakes and home-grown bikkies. Made from whole flours, nuts, soya grits and coconut. Fruit cakes, oat cakes, lemon cakes, orange and ginger cakes, carrot and zucchini cakes, rich carob, walnut and cherry cakes with tofu-cream filling and banana pistachio icing!

Nibbles

To your imaginative limits!



An apple a day may keep the doctor away but it looks like this fish's goose is cooked. David Noble

Most of these things will keep well for a week or more. On warm days, wrap fresh foods and cooked loaves deep in your pack while travelling, and under your sleeping-bag or outside in a cool place on a tenting day. Don't let them freeze overnight in the mountains in winter. On each trip, and on different trips, try a wide variety of foods—a key to appetizing meals.

It should be noted that a stove may be useful in emergencies. However, prevention is better than cure. In potentially chilling weather or situations, a prudent approach and good gear will minimize the possibility of a dangerous thermal state even beginning to arise.

And stove free will not, for obvious reasons, please the tea-drinking walker.

These conditions aside—try it! Stove free has been very happily field-tested by the

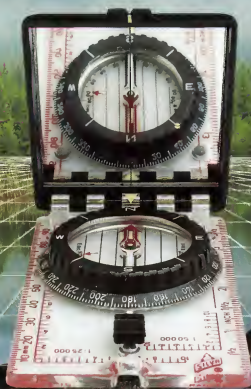
author over half a decade or so, on trips of up to ten days' duration. It has worked successfully in all seasons walking, rafting, skiing and climbing in the wild, beautiful western Tasmanian wilderness.

Save fossil fuels. Carry less weight and bulk. Eat better, and have more get up and go. And, perhaps most importantly, have more time to savour, enjoy and explore the wild places to which our love of the wilderness takes us. ■

Rob Blakers came to Tasmania for a three-week visit in 1980 and then felt unable to leave. He has spent much of the 14 years since exploring the State's remarkable wilderness by raft, foot and ski.

SILVA

COMPASSES



WORLD'S BEST SELLING COMPASSES

from camping stores everywhere

ALL WITH A 5 YEAR GUARANTEE

Trade enquiries: Macson Trading Company Pty Ltd Tel (03) 489 9766 Fax (03) 481 5368

JOURNEYS WITH MAPS

After some 14 years' publication we've decided that it's time to introduce a regular columnist to *Wild*. In each issue one of Australia's best-known—and best—outdoor writers, *Quentin Chester*, will reflect on the more unusual things that make 'going bush' distinctive or memorable. This is the first edition of what will be his regular column, *The Wild Life*.



They are carried on every serious bush journey. Large and laden with information, they are inscribed with symbols, names, numbers, capillaries of blue and masses of concentric loops. These exquisite creations are the product of extensive surveys and painstaking drawing. Yet without our capacity to interpret and visualize, they are of little value. Only by understanding their esoteric graphic idioms do they become charts of our imaginations.

For anyone who makes a habit of venturing forth into untracked country, maps are compelling documents. Beyond their function as representations of a parcel of landscape, they are what we use to divine the secrets of a place. They show enough of the terrain to excite our curiosity—but it is what they can't

show that spurs us into action. Will that constriction of contours turn out to be a cliffline? Does that serpentine creek cut through a gorge? Will that secluded creek-flat accommodate three tents? Is the view from the summit going to be as impressive as it looks? For the outdoor traveller, maps hold the promise of treasure, not buried in a chest but manifest in nature.

My fascination with maps began early. The wall above my childhood bed was almost entirely covered by an immense map of the world. Printed in bright colours on linen, it was suspended from a picture hook on two long, wooden dowels. Even back then it was somewhat out of date: now, with the recent eruptions in global politics, it would be hopelessly obsolete.

How many maps have been spread out on this well-used hut table? *Glenn Tempest*

But my real interest was not so much with the map's geopolitical information as with the crinkled shapes of the continents and the spatial relationships between them. The map was the stimulus for idle contemplation about exotic locales I knew only as names in a book. I used to lie there with Africa hanging over my head, Australia at my navel and Patagonia curving down to my toes. During indolent moments I would nudge the thing with my foot and watch it swing overhead. Occasionally a dusty, two-dimensional world came crashing down on top of me.

This intimacy with the continents made me inquisitive about whatever maps came my

BUSHWALKING MAPS

CMA

Bushwalking in New South Wales this season? Don't wander off aimlessly. Get a map from the Land Information Centre and you won't lose your cool in the bush.



Land Information Centre maps are great for any activity; walking, XC skiing, canoeing, camping, climbing or simply driving. No matter what you want to do or where you want to go, we've got you covered.

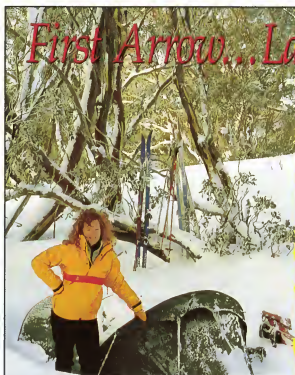
Our maps can be obtained from many newsagents and bookshops, camping outlets, National Parks & Wildlife Service, or direct from the Land Information Centre.

For further information, and your free 'Catalogue of NSW Maps', write to Land Information Centre, PO Box 143, Bathurst, NSW 2795, or phone (063) 32 8200, fax (063) 31 8095. Send \$2.00 for a copy of the CMA Map Reading Guide.

Name

Address

Postcode



Camping below the snow line

First Arrow...Last Word

- 2-3 person expedition tent
- Classic tapered tunnel architecture
- Three Easton arches in reinforced sleeves
- Shock absorption on all 3-7 hold-down points
- One large, one small vestibule
- Access at three points in both skins
- Total ventilation control
- Seam-sealed, pitch-first outer
- Separate, detachable inner
- Sealed, stress-free, easily replaced tub floor
- Complete insect barriers
- Full valence option available
- 10-year field history

LOOK FOR THE WE LOGO...

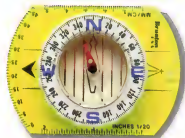


Wilderness Equipment

PO Box 83, Fremantle, WA 6160

Uncompromised Design

**Go left at a big gum-tree.
Follow the Southern Cross in a
westerly direction. It looks like
the summit, but it's not. Three
or four kilometres past the
second stream, there's this
short cut. The
track starts
near this big
forked stick.**



**Where would you be without a Brunton
compass? Your guess is as good as ours.**



Distributed by: Grant Minervini Agencies Pty. Ltd., P.O. Box 209, WELLAND, SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5007.
Phone: (08) 346 6061. Fax: (08) 340 0675

way. The family atlas afforded me hours of entertainment. Similarly, the best things about my father's subscription to *National Geographic*, apart from pictures of unadorned tribeswomen, were the 'Oblique Mercator Projections' from the society's cartographic division. On motoring holidays I pored over the wad of BP road-maps in the glove box of our FE station-wagon. It was also around this time that I used to thrill to the opening titles of *Bonanza* as flames radiated out of a map of Ponderosa country.

However, it wasn't until I started bushwalking several years later that I began to apprehend the power of maps to render topography. Rather than being abstract depictions of continents, such maps are elaborate metaphors for the land itself. In the field they become living documents that merge with one's physical perceptions of a place. During the course of each walking day, the map is studied and gazed at. Bearings are taken, courses plotted and spaces filled with annotations. By the end of a trip the map has become inextricable from your experience of the landscape.

But the power of maps is not confined to the field. Hours spent sifting through your files at home can release a surge of memories: the peaks scaled and saddles crossed, the campsites and water-holes, the storms endured and the friendships made—and sometimes broken. The mere act of having a map unfolded can also generate ideas for new expeditions. Indeed, a trip never really takes shape until you have studied the maps. All the pleasure of planning any outing is plotting your route and anticipating the terrain suggested by all the colourful hieroglyphics.

These days we are used to tapping into a wealth of information about walking areas. There is widespread coverage of 1:50 000 sheets detailing most regions. But it was not always so easy. Less than 60 years ago, many areas were little known. The maps, if they existed at all, were patchy in detail and often woefully inaccurate. It was bushwalkers who helped to plot the intricacies of the terrain. They added nuances and gave names to prominent features. Myles Dunphy was the most diligent of these map makers. He drew 26 maps for publication and sketched many more. As well as being a means of sharing his knowledge of an area, these maps were seen by Dunphy as a powerful weapon in the push for the creation of National Parks.

Some walkers still prepare their own maps of favourite areas but few would rival the scope and charm of the Dunphy maps. Several of these grace my own collection. After a few years of outdoor travel it is not hard to build up a sizeable quantity of maps, which poses problems of storage and handling. Do you stuff bundles into cupboards, arrange them in filing cabinets or go the whole way and install purpose-built drawers?

An acquaintance of mine is the custodian of a collection so large that it occupies most of a room. There are walls lined with filing cabinets and every corner is filled with PVC and cardboard tubes. Maps are bluetacked to walls and spread across desks like layers of filo pastry. When I visit it's hard to avoid matters cartographic. An innocent remark about a proposed trip can lead to a prolonged

session rummaging through drawers and tubes in search of the relevant sheet. We are inevitably side-tracked into regions not remotely connected to my intended destination. My suggestions that he make a map of his map collection have been ignored. I suspect that he secretly enjoys the muddle. He says he buys maps to many areas 'just in case I want to go there some day'.

Given their mesmerizing power, is it any wonder that many bushwalkers tend to regard their maps with respect verging on reverence? They are neatly folded and carried in natty map cases. Some people have their maps laminated with plastic film though personally I like the feel of the paper and the ease of scrawling notes in pen or pencil.

Indeed, I have been accused of being cavalier in my treatment of maps. This might be because I eschew the use of protective cases and instead carry maps down the front of my shorts or tucked between my belt pouch and an increasingly ample girth. Thus the map is readily accessible and easily unfolded when required though admittedly it does get a bit knocked about by perspiration, rain, dust, spilt drinks and the like. (Murphy's Law as it applies to maps states that the really critical information will be right on a badly creased fold line.)

The more fastidious of my walking companions are rightly appalled by such slovenly treatment of what, to them, are documents seemingly as sacred as the Dead Sea Scrolls. I am now accustomed to their admonishing stares when I withdraw a rumpled and steamy sheet of paper from near my navel and attempt to sound authoritative about the direction we should follow.

My maps might rapidly acquire a patina of age but they don't look half as distressed as a walker I once met on a track near Kanagara Tops in the Blue Mountains. This poor chap had mislaid his map case and compass somewhere down the track earlier in the day. I made some reassuring noises as he sat resting with his head in his hands, but he was inconsolable. Apparently these articles had accompanied him on numerous journeys in the area and the map bore masses of notes about his times in the region. 'There's nothing for it—I will have to come back and look for them', he said mournfully.

This kind of reaction is not as unusual as one might think. For some people the attachment is so strong that maps are regarded as extensions of the self. Others peruse and admire their maps as though they were works of art. There are homes where framed charts of favourite haunts hang in pride of place on living-room walls. In a high country hut a skier once confided to me that he had dreams for a café where the walls would be decorated by mountain photographs and every table would be topped by a map of a wilderness area set under glass. 'You might have problems with customer turnover', I suggested. I guess so. But wouldn't it be great, you could eat your meal and plan your trips at the same time', he enthused.

Of course, such obsessive interest is not universal. There are walkers who treat maps as strictly utilitarian devices to be consulted only when other route-finding skills have been exhausted. Some contend that maps

betray the secrets of a place and dilute the delights of making one's own discoveries. This is perhaps true of some sketch-maps which tediously detail every campsite and feature of interest. There is a fine line between having enough knowledge to enjoy an area and letting the facts get in the way of a good time.

This conundrum has been explored by Frank Moorhouse, our most nimble chronicler of the demarcations between the public domain and that of private fiction. His story 'Masculinity Index', which gives an account of bushwalking in the Budawangs, is both an eager compilation of facts and historical snippets about the area and a querulous commentary on the 'verbal debris' left by explorers and map makers. (Poor old Myles Dunphy is invoked as one of the 'villains of naming'.) The narrator of the story yearns to 'move in the bush without maps or names or destination or time' yet later is described using his map and compass, avidly recording his progress and comments on index cards and attaching names of his own to landmarks.

There is an exploratory urge within most of us; a desire to make our own findings. Australians are fortunate to live on a continent where you can still visit places that are not lumbered with modern history. There are large tracts where the thrill of discovery is still possible—something that would be ludicrous in, say, the Lake District or as you queue to climb Mont Blanc. Nevertheless, as maps and other information about our popular wild areas become more bountiful it will become harder to sustain the illusion that such areas are indeed 'wild' and that we are looking at them as if we were the first to do so. Technology will see to that.

You don't need a crystal ball to realize that maps as we know them will soon go the same way as vinyl records. Map cases will be replaced by wafer-thin screens integrated with the Global Positioning System. Your 'map' will be a disc which, when inserted in the case, will display a topographical image. No longer will you have to juggle your compass and a sheet of paper that flaps madly in the wind. Instead, at the press of a button, everything will be there in a glowing mass of pixels: your location and course, weather forecasts, how many tent spaces are left at campsites, the creeks that are flowing—you name it.

I guess if they design a model that will fit down my shorts I will probably buy one. But part of me resists the rush to information overload. I would like to think that I will cling to the mystique of my paper charts. Those venerable documents which not only show you where you are and what's ahead but give your eye scope to roam and your mind the freedom to imagine places you never even dreamed of—not yet, anyway. ■

Quentin Chester

Quentin Chester (see Contributors in Wild no 3) is a freelance writer who specializes in outdoor topics. He is originally from Adelaide and lived for some years in exile on the Hawkesbury River, New South Wales, dreaming of the Finders Ranges. He recently returned to Adelaide. He is the author of *The Kimberley-Horizons of Stone*, reviewed in Wild no 48.

THE LONG

Australia's
long-distance
walking tracks,
by *John Chapman*

For many years Australia had only a couple of recognized long-distance walking tracks. Considering the rate at which we were destroying our native bushlands it seemed there would eventually be little scope for this activity. Fortunately the green revolution of the last two decades has benefited bushwalkers, with long-distance tracks appearing in most States. These tracks are now seen by land management authorities as both a status symbol and a focal point to attract interest from members of the general public who may be encouraged to walk short sections.

The newer long-distance tracks have often been initiated by a keen bushwalker or bushwalking group and then constructed by various groups ranging from local councils to National Park bodies. Unfortunately, some tracks seem to vanish soon after they have been created. Some sections of the Surf Coast Walk near Torquay in Victoria, for example, have all but disappeared. It is not sufficient to mark a track; it also needs maintenance. For a track to survive in the long term it usually needs to be managed by a government body prepared to maintain it. The lesson is obvious for track planners; get the State land managers involved both in design and in providing future commitments.

At present, some new tracks are being planned. Examples include the Great Dividing Trail which links the towns of Castlemaine, Ballarat and Bacchus Marsh in Victoria; and the Myall Heritage Trail north of Sydney. Neither these planned tracks nor those of which the future is threatened by poor maintenance have been included in the list below.

The tracks selected for this article are all recognized bushwalking tracks which provide at least four days' walking. All the tracks have names; most of these are officially recognized and marked on



Dawn breaks over Mt Speculation, which lies on one of the most spectacular legs of the Victorian section of the Alpine Walking Track. *Glenn van der Knijff*

WALKS



signposts and on a number of maps. Many have logos which provide easy-to-spot track markers. Most long-distance tracks are one-way routes for which transport needs to be organized at one or both ends of the track. In most cases guidebooks supply information about commercial transport; tourist bureaux are also excellent for finding charter buses and taxi services.

Minimum-impact bushwalking practices should always be followed when walking these tracks. Briefly: use fuel stoves; wash well away from streams; bury toilet waste deeply; and carry out all your rubbish. As well, some tracks cross private land or restricted regions such as catchments. Usually signs indicate such areas—please obey all restrictions as this will ensure access for future walkers. Deviations from the marked track will also be inevitable for a variety of reasons on such long routes and you should obey such changes. One current deviation on the Great North Walk is due to a nearby rifle-range.

As this article shows, Australia is now well served with long-distance walking tracks through most regions except Queensland. The one Queensland walk described here—on Hinchinbrook Island—is not really a long-distance track but has been included as it covers a region not otherwise represented. The only other significant walk in Queensland, the Cooloola Wilderness Trail, is only a two- to three-day walk. It is to be hoped that some keen Queensland walkers will instigate longer tracks through the magnificent rain forests; from Cairns to Cape York, for instance, or maybe one that follows the Scenic Rim near Brisbane. At the other extreme, both Tasmania and Victoria have many long-distance tracks and I have simply selected the longest.

LARAPINTA TRAIL

NORTHERN TERRITORY

This is a very spectacular walk along a desert range and when completed should become a must for every bushwalker—it is worth visiting the Northern Territory just for this walk. Still under construction, the track starts at Alice Springs and will follow the West Macdonnell Range for 220 kilometres. At present, 78 kilometres of track—comprising four sections out of the 13 planned—have been completed. Route selection and on-ground marking have also been done for several other sections. It is expected that another three-four years will be needed before the entire track is completed.



Brochures with contoured sketch-maps are being produced by the Conservation Commission of the Northern Territory as each section is completed. No other guide-notes are yet available. Permits are not needed for this walk. Experienced bushwalkers with good navigation skills and suitable experience can follow the entire length of the currently proposed route.

EDITH FALLS WILDERNESS

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Katherine Gorge in the Northern Territory is one of the better-known tourist places of Australia. What is not well known, even among bushwalkers, is



Scenery typical of the Larapinta Trail; the rich desert colours of the West Macdonnell Range some 80 kilometres west of Alice Springs, Northern Territory. Bruce Godden

that the Nitmiluk National Park contains 150 kilometres of excellent walking tracks. Unfortunately, the tracks to the upper half of Katherine Gorge are closed at present but bushwalkers are encouraged to use the long-distance walk from the gorge to Edith Falls. Track markers indicate the way, which varies from management-vehicle tracks to rough pads through open bush. As there are only limited water-supplies, advice should be sought from the rangers before starting.

The track crosses a wide variety of terrain ranging from long, swampy valleys to the dry plateaux, passing through both desert areas and rain forest. Camping permits are needed and these are available only from the park headquarters at the foot of Katherine Gorge. Fuel stoves are necessary as camp

fires are not allowed. While no guide-notes are available, the brochure 'Katherine Gorge Walking Tracks' from the Conservation Commission of the Northern Territory shows the route and lists points where water can be obtained. The Natmap 1:100 000 Katherine map is useful although none of the walking tracks are marked.

EAST COAST TRAIL

QUEENSLAND

There are well-developed tourist resorts on most of Queensland's large islands. Luckily for bushwalkers, one of the largest, Hinchinbrook, has only a small development on its northern tip, leaving

the remainder in a relatively pristine condition. A rough bushwalking track has been created along the eastern coast of this island providing a superb wilderness walk through rain forests, across swampy flats and along beaches. The track is very rough with plenty of mud. Fuel stoves are necessary as open fires are banned. Strictly speaking, this is not really a long-distance track but it is the best that Queensland has to offer. The Cooloola Wilderness Trail is longer at 45 kilometres but is only regarded as a two- to three-day walk.

Permits are needed to walk here and are best arranged in advance. To keep this National Park in pristine condition quotas are set on both the total number of walkers allowed on the track at any one time (40) and on the number at each campsite. All access to the island is by boat, and when permits are obtained from the National Parks office at Cardwell, advice on boat operators should also be sought. An excellent brochure with maps and good notes is available from the National Parks Service.

GREAT NORTH WALK

NEW SOUTH WALES

This track is the result of a very ambitious undertaking by two Sydney bushwalkers, Garry McDougall and Leigh Shearer-Heriot. After having explored and planned a walk from Sydney to Newcastle, they canvassed support for a walking track. Realizing that for the track to be successful it had to be supported by a government department, they put in some amazing efforts, obtained grants from the Bicentennial Committee and had the track adopted by the Department of Conservation & Land Management.

The walk begins in the centre of Sydney and after a short ferry ride follows natural bushland almost the entire way to the city of Newcastle. While not strictly a wilderness walk, it has much to offer. It has been sited to pass through almost every type of environment found close to Sydney. Some of the route was burnt in the recent Sydney bushfires but should regenerate fairly quickly. The fires will of course have destroyed some of the track and track markers but, as it has government support, these should eventually be replaced.

A section of the track is currently closed because of a nearby rifle-range and a long detour is required; it is hoped that common sense will prevail and the track will resume its previous route. The best information about this track comes from the excellent guide *The Great North Walk* written by the walk's two originators. Maps to the entire route are produced in brochure form by the Department of Conservation & Land Management.

HUME AND HOVELL TRACK

NEW SOUTH WALES

This is the other long-distance walking track in New South Wales opened in the bicentenary year. This track was instigated by the then Department of Lands and was in the planning stage for several years. The most difficult task was to locate the actual route followed by Hume and Hovell on their overland journey to Melbourne. Where possible, the track closely follows the explorers' route. It has been sited to pass through both natural landscapes and



some agricultural regions to provide contrast and is modelled on similar tracks overseas.

The track itself is generally easy to follow, being signposted and marked throughout. It mainly passes through forestry areas as it skirts round the northern end of Kosciusko National Park. At present the track starts at Gunning and stretches for 372 kilometres towards Albury. It is planned eventually to extend the track to a length of 450 kilometres.

The Hume and Hovell Walking Track by Harry Hill is an excellent guidebook to the track. In addition, useful brochures with strip maps to most of the track are produced by the Department of Conservation & Land Management.

ALPINE WALKING TRACK

VIC / NSW / ACT

This well-known track follows the spine of the Victorian Alps from Walhalla in Victoria north-east to the New South Wales border. It was intended for the track to continue to Canberra but official agreement was never reached over the track's route. Finally, John Siseman, frustrated at the stand-off, explored and extended his description of the route all the way to Canberra and this has now become the unofficial route for walkers.

The track crosses mainly alpine country. It is at times very scenic and has proven to be a popular long-distance walk. While many groups and clubs set out each summer to walk the entire 765 kilometres, the majority select the more spectacular sections and follow the track for about one week. Most of the track is easy to follow although there are some short sections of untracked bush or overgrown pads along the route. An excellent guidebook to the track, *Alpine Walking Track* by John Siseman, is available. Good maps for the entire route can be obtained from various publishers.



ed for walkers as the Ben Cruachan Walking Track. It crosses the southern part of the Victorian Alps traversing many deep valleys and passing through a wide range of country. While the track can be followed for the entire distance, it is not very clearly marked nor is it shown on most maps. At present some sections follow major roads and it is intended to re-route these to locations more suitable for bushwalkers. This is a pleasant, interesting and historic track and provides tougher walking than the Alpine Walking Track. Its major attraction is that some sections are popular with horse-riders. Brief track notes are available in *Wonnangatta Moroka National Park* by John Siseman.

GREAT SOUTH WEST WALK

VICTORIA

This track, which started as a school project, has developed into an extensive circular loop of 250 kilometres in south-western Victoria. The track provides very easy walking for most of its length as there are very few hills. Initially crossing some farmland, it mainly passes through forestry areas and several sections of National Park. Its major features are the gorge of the Glenelg River, and the extremely long, sandy beach of Discovery Bay which takes three days to walk! The track follows closed roads, sandy beaches and walking tracks for most of its length.

The track is managed by the Department of Conservation & Natural Resources at Portland. While no permits are needed, it is a good idea to contact the department before starting, to inquire about current conditions as many campsites rely on tank-water. A small booklet containing brief notes and good sketch



McMILLANS WALKING TRACK

VICTORIA

In the 1860s McMillan constructed a track that was suitable for pack-horses from the Jordan Diggings near Woods Point (east of Melbourne) to Omeo. Later this became overgrown and in the 1980s the track was relocated and reopened



maps is produced by the Friends of the Great South West Walk. Detailed track notes are available in *Bushwalking in Australia* by John and Monica Chapman.

OVERLAND TRACK

T A S M A N I A

The best-known and most popular long-distance track in Australia needs no introduction to *Wild* readers. Crossing the central highlands of Tasmania, the track passes through the Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park. A wide variety of alpine scenery is passed along the way. The track was first opened in 1935 and has been upgraded steadily since then to become the easily walked path it is today. Passing through a high rainfall region, the track has been so badly eroded in the past that extreme repair

measures such as boardwalks and gravel have been necessary. A series of open huts exist along the track but tents are still needed as there is no booking system on hut space (first come, first served).

The entire track is now a fuel-stove-only area with all camp fires banned. Fees are charged for entry to all Tasmanian parks—including this walk—and are based on a daily rate. A good map to the park is produced by Tasmap. Detailed track notes can be found in *Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair and Walls of Jerusalem National Parks* by John Chapman and John Siseman.

SOUTH COAST TRACK

T A S M A N I A

This is the longest and best known of Tasmania's other walking tracks. It follows

the magnificent southern coastline of the South West National Park. The walking ranges from sparkling sandy beaches to notoriously muddy swampland. At one time the track was so muddy that it was commonly called 'the south coast sewer' (see the cover of *Wild* no 23) but extensive track repair work by National Park workers has improved the walking conditions dramatically. This is a true wilderness-style walk passing through natural landscape which is both spectacular and beautiful.

Permits are needed to enter the National Park and fees are based on a daily rate. No quotas are placed on the track. At present, only one section of the track is classed as fuel-stove-only but all walkers are requested to limit their use of fires elsewhere and use stoves. The track ends at the airstrip of Melaleuca although it is possible to extend it by following the Port Davey Track for a further 65 kilometres to Scotts Peak Dam. Detailed notes for both tracks are in *South West Tasmania* by John Chapman.

Long-distance walking tracks: who needs 'em? Quentin Chester

A few years ago I was ambling along a creek in the Flinders Ranges. Daybreak was clear and sharp. I walked alone while my colleagues were still rapt in sleep. The stroll took me through groves of sweetly fragrant callitris pines and late-winter grass spangled with dew. The drift of my waking thoughts just kept pace with the slow-moving shadows of early morning. Everything was going fine until I was confronted by some hard-edged geometry nailed to a tree ahead.

The red metallic triangle marked a track leading north. I followed the arrows and my nose, which detected pungent whiffs of pine smoke. Eventually the path brought me to a small clearing crowded with tents—perhaps a dozen in all—and a bonfire that was sending flames snapping as high as the encircling trees. The people by the fire were singing along with the noise from a ghetto-blasters. They were mostly obscured by smoke and tents. But I did notice that several trees near the camp were freshly stripped of lower limbs. There were also juice cans, foil wrappers and ill-disposed mounds flagged with toilet-paper dotted round the site. My mood curdled. Where had this infernal crowd come from? I had no urge to linger and quickly withdrew to my quiet creek.

Later I discovered that I had unwittingly intersected the newly blazed Heysen Trail which, at the time, was being installed in stages along the length of the Flinders Ranges and south through the Adelaide Hills to the coast. This experience jaundiced my view of such inventions. Of course the group in question may not have been representative of the worthy types who might at other times travel such tracks. Nor perhaps is it fair to blame a few red signs for such egregious behaviour. But had there not been a marked track, I suspect that these people wouldn't have been there.

Many problems are associated with established walking tracks—and most of them are people. Any blazed path has the unhappy consequence of funneling crowds into places little visited previously. The longer the track, the more of the landscape is violated. As well as increasing traffic

a publicized route *does* encourage the 'wrong' sorts of people, travelling for the wrong sorts of reasons. In short, people who tend to stuff up the bush. It's also likely that some of these people will not have the wit or experience to cope with bad weather, natural hazards and medical emergencies in isolated parts.

Even if you're not fazed by the herds you might be a bit affronted by the sight of previously unsullied stretches of bush adorned with luminous track markers, self-important wooden signs and footpaths engineered for the trampling masses. Suddenly there are switchbacks etched into steep slopes, bridges erected over creeks, boardwalks spanning delicate surfaces, and natty steps and stairways built anywhere the ground underfoot gets a bit dicey. Thus the terrain is transformed, not just to make it convenient for passing patrons, but most of all to make it safe.

Once government agencies proclaim the existence of an authorized thoroughfare, they have to protect themselves from accusations of negligence and the spectre of liability litigation. The wild region that was once entered 'at your own risk' becomes a public facility to be improved and maintained. No matter how sensitively designed or discreetly signposted, these tracks are an imposition on the landscape.

This is not to say that every marked path is an evil essence. Most of our parks have short nature strolls and loop tracks catering for those who want to sample some of the local delights but haven't the time or skill to make their own way through the bush. These tracks normally don't intrude on the park at large and at least they serve to encourage visitors to get out of their vehicles and walk.

The real problem lies with prepared tracks on an epic scale. These constructions reduce the experience of *passing through* vast tracts of territory to that of *walking along* a meaty corridor. They promote a notion that wild places can be subdued, processed, packaged and marketed for ready consumption rather than explored on their own terms. They represent join-the-dots bush-walking.

Our prevailing culture has always lauded schemes that surmount the nation's daunting distances. Whether it be stock-routes, overland telegraphs, pipelines or four-lane freeways, we marvel at achievements that tame tyrannical stretches of countryside. These may indeed be impressive feats but it is too much to ask that the few remaining areas not criss-crossed with artifacts of civilization be left untouched?

The experience of being in the bush is something that should test our own initiative and powers of interpretation. For those starting out it is reasonable that there should be options for walking that relieve the burdens of navigation and route finding. But to extend this idea to tracks covering hundreds of kilometres seems a dubious exercise. If people want to immerse themselves in the back-country for weeks at a time, they should have developed the skills to make their own way.

Primary among these skills is the ability to judge the lie of the land. The security threat of a marked track inhibits an understanding of place. The eye is forever scanning the scene for a bright shape or reflective ribbon to show the way. The mind tends to fix on the process of clocking up kilometres and reaching nominated destinations. Busy routes foster a kind of urgent rivalry as you press on to reach photo-opportunities, and designated campsites before the hordes descend. One is prey to the same kind of plodding, linear thinking that blinkers our lives as goal-driven workers and commuters.

Being in the wilds should be different from that. Certainly it's good to get to where you want to go. But it's no less important to see what's there, to have one's appreciation of a place shaped by a close-grained association with what's off the track, in those nooks where lateral discoveries are made rather than reflective disks impaled on trees, our passage through the country should follow an educated intuition about the natural world. We would be better guided by the contours of the terrain and by natural landmarks. Our signs should be the rocks and trees themselves. Then we would have links through the country worth signing about. ■

PENGUIN CRADLE TRAIL

T A S M A N I A

This is an ambitious undertaking by the North West Walking Club and highlights the problems of tracks that are not adopted by government departments. Marking and clearing of the track depend on volunteers and as a result parts of this track are often overgrown and difficult to

Flinders Ranges. The scenery varies from coastal bushland to arid desert ranges. The track has been sited to pass through National Parks and forestry lands where possible. Even so, very large sections of the route cross farms and private property so don't expect a wilderness walk. Most people come to walk the spectacular sections, which are the ranges near Adelaide and the Flinders Ranges. Permits are not needed to follow the track. Track notes for the two popular

the southern coast of Western Australia. It follows quiet forestry roads and walking tracks and mainly passes through the tall forests of the region. It is not a wilderness walk although where possible the track is sited in undisturbed forests. While it is possible to walk the track at any time of the year, walkers need to know that there is a total fire-ban—which includes fuel stoves—in the summer. Most streams are dry for much of the year so don't come here in the hotter months.

No permits are needed. The track is marked throughout by unique signs. Good information and excellent strip maps are found in *A Guide to the Bibbulmun Track* by the Department of Conservation & Land Management.



Duck-boards and cushion plants—typical fare on Tasmania's Overland Track near Mt Ossa. Glenn van der Knijff. Right, rugged going near Lion Rock, South Coast Track, Tasmania. John Chapman

follow. It crosses the forested hills from Penguin on Tasmania's northern coast to the Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park and thus provides an interesting, different access point for the Overland Track.

Passing through forestry areas, some farm country, the spectacular Leven Canyon and across alpine moorlands, this track offers an experience different from that of Tasmania's other tracks. The track itself is signposted throughout. No permits are needed as the track does not enter any National Parks. Good current track-note information is available in the form of notes from the North West Walking Club. The entire route is mapped by Tasmap at 1:25 000 although the track's location is only shown on new editions.

HEYSEN TRAIL

S O U T H A U S T R A L I A

As South Australia's only long track, the Heyesen Trail has become very well known although few have ever walked its entire length. It starts at Cape Jervis south of Adelaide and passes through the Mt Lofy Ranges and the Barossa Valley, eventually ending in the far northern

sections are available, *Parachilna to Hawker* and *Encounter Bay to the Barossa Valley*. There are also strip maps; all are produced by the South Australian Government.

BIBBULMUN TRACK

W E S T E R N A U S T R A L I A

Starting from just outside Perth, this track extends south-east to Walpole on

Horse Riders Association and the route has been selected to avoid wilderness areas. Good campsites and watering points are often 40 kilometres apart, a reasonably easy distance for horses but too far for two-legged transport.

The track extends from just outside Melbourne to Cooktown in Queensland following the slopes of the Great Dividing Range most of the way. Much of the track follows vehicle tracks and quiet country roads. A good set of twelve guidebooks covers the entire track. ■

John Chapman (see Contributors in *Wild no 1*) is one of Australia's most travelled and widely respected bushwalking writers. He is particularly well known for his books of Tasmanian track notes.



WILD TREKKING





HIGHEST AFRICA

Trekking in the mountains of East Africa,
by *Grant Dixon*

My introduction to the mountains of East Africa took place more than 8000 metres above the ground while on an international flight to Nairobi. Dawn had just broken and the plains below were covered by haze or cloud, typical of the June dry season. Floating ethereally to the south was the snow-capped dome of Mt Kilimanjaro—the only land visible in any direction. Several weeks later I glimpsed the mountain from below, this time through the haze from Amboseli, while watching the elephants and other wildlife that live in sight of this massive mountain. Trekking had not been a major part of my agenda for that particular trip. However, those views of Mt Kilimanjaro and a subsequent trek on the slopes of Mt Kenya had confirmed my intention to return and spend time in the mountains.

The preparations for our forays into the East African mountains were greatly assisted by one member of the party having friends resident in Nairobi—their house and garden proved a very useful base from which to mount shopping expeditions. My knowledge of overland transport from experiences the previous year also proved to be useful.

The first phase of our plans—several weeks in the Rwenzori Mountains of Uganda—involved travelling across Kenya and Uganda. We caught the overnight train from Nairobi to Kisumu, on Lake Victoria, an experience reminiscent of colonial days. In Kisumu we negotiated a deal with a *matatu* (minibus) driver for transport to the border before he realized how much gear and how many people he had agreed to carry. It was a slow trip to the border: a pleasant change from some *matatu* rides I had previously experienced. The border formalities went well until Ron affirmed that he had a first aid kit buried in his pack. Unpacking and inspection of the various pills ensued. In contrast to our Kenyan driver, the one behind the wheel of the *matatu* which transported us to Kampala seemed to be practising for the inaugural Ugandan Grand Prix!

Kampala is built on a series of hills north of Lake Victoria. It is a small, green city, easy to get around in and full of friendly people, but it still bears the scars of the civil war, such as missing windows and bullet-holes in many buildings. The *New Vision*, the national newspaper, is for sale on almost every street corner.

After setting up camp in Kampala in the grounds of the YMCA, we ambled down to the bank to change some money. Having visited Uganda the previous year I knew to take a day pack. Uganda at that time had no large-denomination bills and at the prevailing exchange rate sufficient funds for a three-week trip to the Rwenzori would have required a very large wallet. A visit to the station confirmed that a departure to Kasese, the nearest town to the Rwenzori, was



Alexandra, the second-highest peak on Mt Stanley, Rwenzori Mountains, Uganda. **Pages 42 and 43**, the extraordinary equatorial ice-cliffs of Mt Kilimanjaro. All photos Grant Dixon

remains in a state of disrepair; the train, however, attempts to make the journey several times a week. Sleeping-mats are a useful accessory even in first class, covering the exposed springs and gaps in what's left of the seats.

The train crawled out of Kampala station the next day—on time—and soon left the city behind. We made slow progress across the hot Ugandan lowlands, with lengthy stops at every village—at which times the train was usually besieged by food vendors. Still more vendors staffed stalls adjacent to the train stops so it was easy to pass the time sampling a variety of local foodstuffs. Armed guards patrolled every carriage; there was still some concern due to rebel activity in the north of the country. The journey took 28 hours, twice as long as timetabled (as though that means anything) and was punctu-

We arrived in Kasese hot and tired late in the day. While we intended to do some climbing, we planned to walk in and out of the mountains with a larger trekking group. Several members of the group had arrived in Kasese earlier and had already contacted Rwenzori Mountaineering Services, the group that organizes most treks. Having nothing else to do, we dumped our gear at the hotel and went looking for a cold beer. Many East African hotels, including the one in which we were staying, are Muslim-owned and so do not sell alcohol. However, Coke and other soft drinks are widely available—I wonder at the annual per capita consumption of soft drinks!

The next morning two utes collected the expanded party and gear from the hotel and, after a few circuits of town looking for petrol, transported us to Nyakalengija village. Here the paperwork was completed, money was handed over, porters were chosen and loads were weighed and distributed. Finally,



For the first hour or so our route ran through pleasantly undulating fields beside the Mubuku River. Part-way up the 1000 metre climb to Nyabitaba Hut, however, I was wondering at the sense in carrying most of my own gear (something about doing it myself, getting really fit and saving a few dollars, I seem to recall).

The Rwenzori have a deserved reputation for wet weather (their name is derived from local words meaning 'Hill of Rain') and hence I wasn't surprised when it started to rain heavily. As the altitude was still fairly low and the temperature was quite mild, I chose to get comfortably soaked to the skin rather than wear a steamy parka.

It gets dark rapidly in the tropics, particularly when one is also in the clouds. When darkness descended several members of our expanded party were still some distance from camp. However, an excursion with torches and much cooeeing eventually had everyone together.

The following day involved a steady climb to about 3200 metres through

bamboo and moss forest—where every branch and twig is clothed in moss and epiphytes—with occasional glimpses of the steep, green walls of the Bujuku valley through gaps in the canopy. There is also plenty of the infamous Rwenzori mud although anyone experienced in Tasmanian bogs wouldn't be too surprised.

The new John Matte Hut, built for trekkers, was intended to localize their impact, and this it has largely done. Unfortunately, while most trekkers use stoves for cooking, trek porters do not and the area of mud and clear-felled vegetation around the hut is already expanding alarmingly.

Bujuku Lake, lying at almost 4000 metres in a steep-sided glacial valley surrounded by Mts Stanley, Speke and Baker, was our destination the following day and would be our base for forays into the surrounding mountains. Bigo Bog, with its occasional mud traps, contains several of the weird, giant Afro-alpine plant species—lobelia and cypripedium of giant groundsel. From Bigo Bog we climbed up beside a waterfall, through

an extensive grove of tree-groundsel and past Bujuku Lake, with knee-deep mud below and rain and hail showers above. Camp was established beside a somewhat dilapidated shelter hut above and beyond the lake. Most of the remaining porters now returned to the village. Our communal guide Zebadiah, who has been guiding parties into the Rwenzori since the early 1960s, and mission-educated John, who spoke the best English, remained with us.

Several ascents were undertaken during the next few days, interspersed with eating, reading and resting in camp when the weather looked more dubious. However, as we discovered several days later when camped on Mt Stanley, it can be clear and pleasant on the summits while wet and cloudy in the valley 1000 metres below.

Mt Speke is the easiest of the high Rwenzori peaks to ascend, the normal route being non-technical (although a glacier must be crossed). Vittorio Emanuele (4890 metres) is its highest point. The route leads up through giant groundsel forest to a saddle, then up steep, wet and slippery rock slabs to a series of shelves. Here we elected to sidle around to the snout of the Speke Glacier; a more interesting route, we thought. Reaching the ice, after some exciting moments on glaciated rock slabs, crampons were donned. Some rudimentary instruction in self-arrest techniques was imparted to those who hadn't done this before, and we plodded up into the mist. The glacier steepened, then eased. A prospective gully was chosen and soon there was no more up: we were standing on the corniced and rime-encrusted summit. There was no view. We descended the same route, with entertainment provided by Doug who elected to practise his self-arrest instruction—fortunately successfully—during a 200 metre slide towards a crevasse.

The climb to Irene Lakes is one of the most scenic routes in the area, ascending steeply through groundsel forest and above cliffs to a tarn-studded shelf below the Margherita Glacier on Mt Stanley. We intended to go further and attempt a more technical route to Margherita by its East Ridge while the non-climbers explored nearby valleys. Margherita (5109 metres) is the highest peak of Mt Stanley and the third-highest summit in Africa. The attempt proved successful, and the mist which accompanied us for most of the climb cleared while we were on the summit to reveal nearby rime-covered Alexandra (5091 metres). During the descent Andrew almost succeeded in examining the lower reaches of the East Ridge's northern aspect under the direct influence of gravity. Fortunately, his aerial acrobatics deposited him on a solid snow-ledge. He was uncharacteristically subdued for some time thereafter.

East African Mountains; facts for trekkers

Africa is not commonly considered a mountainous continent although many parts of this huge continent are extremely rugged. The highest mountain areas, which are also amongst the most interesting and accessible are located in East Africa—Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania. East Africa is equatorial, but the altitude of the mountain areas and of the high plateau covering much of Kenya and Tanzania means that the climate is mercifully not too hot.

The Rwenzori Mountains are a 110 kilometre long range straddling the Uganda-Zaire border, with access from Uganda being the easiest and least tedious. Three points on the highest peak, Mt Stanley, top 5000 metres; Margherita (5109 metres) is the third-highest summit in Africa. The range is very rugged, thickly vegetated below 3500 metres and carries glaciers on the five highest peaks. It has a well-deserved reputation for wet weather. This is the most challenging trekking destination of the three areas described in the main article. There are potential trekking routes up most valleys; with pass crossings at their heads. The Bujuku valley area, the most popular, contains several rather rudimentary huts.

Mt Kenya (5199 metres) is the highest peak in Kenya and the second highest in Africa. Its summit is a spectacular spire at the centre of a mountain almost 100 kilometres in diameter, situated about 160 kilometres north of Nairobi. A number of small, rapidly receding glaciers surround the summit spires. There are three well-defined trekking routes on the open ridges and valleys which radiate from the peak itself.

Mt Kilimanjaro is a massive rather than spectacular mountain. It is often half seen floating in the haze from the surrounding lowlands, above which it rises more than 4500 metres, and is one of the world's highest free-standing mountains. A well-patronized trekking route with hut accommodation leads up the south-eastern slopes. This is traversed by thousands of people every year, but only a small proportion succeed in reaching the summit. The rapid rise to high altitude and lack of fitness of many aspiring ascensionists take a heavy toll. Less popular routes approach the summit from other directions and it is possible to make a multiday circuit of the mountain at more than 4000 metres.

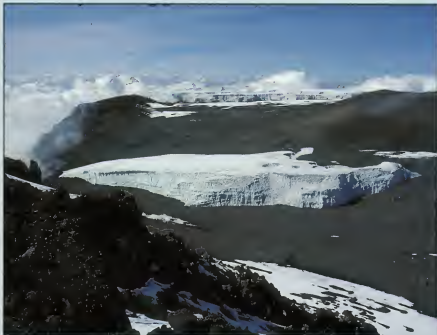
Geology

The East African mountains are all very young geologically. The rocks of the Rwenzori Mountains are ancient, more than 600 million years old, but have been uplifted by earth movements associated with the Great Rift Valley during the last ten million years. Mts Kenya and Kilimanjaro were also formed by activity associated with the Great Rift Valley. However, unlike the Rwenzori Mountains, both these mountains are volcanoes. Mt Kenya was formed by successive eruptions about three million years ago, with subsequent erosion exposing the volcanic 'plug'. Mt Kilimanjaro is the youngest of the mountains; its oldest lavas formed only one million years ago and active steam vents and recent sulphur deposits can be seen near its summit.

All the mountains have been glaciated to below 3500 metres during recent ice-ages. The Rwenzori display evidence of several periods of glaciation, the major deep valleys being largely of glacial origin. Glaciers remain on all three mountains but are now retreating rapidly.

Flora and fauna

The mountain areas are isolated, high-altitude islands. The vegetation covering them displays distinct altitudinal zonation. The highest altitude zones contain many species endemic to the one mountain although usually closely related to species on the other peaks.



Despite its equatorial location and volcanic origin, Mt Kilimanjaro's summit is still graced with dazzling glaciers.

Below the rock, ice and alpine desert of the summit areas is the zone of moorland, giant heather, groundsel and lobelia (the weird vegetation for which the East African mountains are most famous). Woodland, with twisted trees and many shrubs and herbs, is found at a lower altitude; followed, progressively, by a belt of bamboo (mostly lacking on Mt Kilimanjaro) and montane forest, rich in species and with many epiphytes and vines.

Larger animals are rare, although both elephant and buffalo exist on the lower slopes. Many monkeys and birds are heard, but not often seen, in the forests. Hyrax live in colonies above the tree-line. They are partial to trekkers' food supplies in the more frequently visited areas.

History

The Rwenzori are claimed to be the fabled 'Mountains of the Moon' referred to as the source of the Nile by Ptolemy in 150 AD although his story is based on much earlier accounts. Stanley and his companions were the first Europeans to sight the Rwenzori in 1876. In 1906 the Italian Duke of Abruzzi mounted a large scientific and mountaineering expedition and made ascents of most of the highest peaks. Shipton and Tilman visited the Rwenzori in 1932, undertaking a number of fast first ascents in their usual style. The first huts were built in the 1940s. The Ugandan Rwenzori Forest National Park, which includes the mountains, was established in 1991.

Mts Kenya and Kilimanjaro are both the focus of many of the local people's legends. They were first sighted by German missionaries in the 1840s, but it was not until 1883 that it was accepted by European scholars that the snows of these peaks—so close to the equator—really existed.

Mt Kenya was first climbed by Mackinder (a feature on the normal route still bears his name) and two European mountain guides in 1899, on their third attempt. Shipton undertook the second ascent in 1929 and, with Tilman, the first traverse in 1930. In 1943 Benuzzi, an Italian mountaineer, escaped

from a POW camp at the foot of Mt Kenya and attempted the peak—he almost succeeded. His book on the attempt (see 'Further reading') is a classic.

Attempts to reach the summit of Mt Kilimanjaro culminated in the success of Meyer and Purtscheller in 1889. Norwegian aid money and assistance built huts and transformed the route up Mt Kilimanjaro's south-east flank during the early 1980s. Mt Kilimanjaro is now the biggest money-earner of all Tanzanian National Parks.

Politics

Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda gained their independence from the UK in the 1960s. They all have single-party, elected democratic governments, with a president as head of state. Pressure for a multiparty system has resulted in some violence in Kenya in recent years and both Kenya and the nominally more socialist Tanzania are apparently moving towards establishing multiparty systems. Uganda suffered terribly during the Idi Amin era and subsequent civil war, which ended in 1986. The country is hence very run down. There now seems to be a prevailing sense of 'enough is enough' amongst the Ugandans and a communal effort is under way to get their country together again. Consequently the Ugandans, in particular, are very friendly and welcoming to tourists.

When to go

The dry seasons are December-February and June-September although this is only relative in the Rwenzori. Even at these times of the year there is afternoon cloud and rain, and snow often falls on Mts Kenya and Kilimanjaro; in the Rwenzori it can—and does—rain and snow at any time.

These periods are also the most popular for tourists generally, with the peak season being July-August, which coincides with European summer holidays and the great wildlife migrations from the Serengeti. Early in the dry seasons is probably more pleasant, and there are likely to be fewer fellow trekkers.

If mountaineering is planned, the southern flanks of Mt Kilimanjaro are in better condition during June-July. Mt Kenya, which lies on the equator, has two seasons at the same time—its North Face experiences summer in June and winter in January; its South Face, the opposite.

Transport and accommodation

The cheapest flights from Australia to Nairobi travel by way of South-east Asia, Pakistan or Mauritius and invariably involve one or two compulsory overnight stops en route. Flying by way of Zimbabwe is cheaper than it used to be and allows one to visit other parts of Africa.

Overland transport within East Africa is easy to organize and relatively frequent, if not always reliable. Trains cross Kenya and part of Uganda—the Kenyan train experience harks back to colonial days; the Ugandan train (Kampala-Kasese) is an experience of a different sort. If travelling by road, the large local buses are slow but allow the best experience and view of the local people and countryside. In Kenya, Peugeot 'taxis' are faster, particularly from Nairobi to the Tanzanian border. *Matusis* (minibuses) all seem to be driven by aspiring racing drivers; unfortunately, however, they lack any of the desirable skills. Road vehicles and roads in Tanzania are in a greater state of disrepair than is the case in Kenya; hence travel is slower.

All towns have reasonable, inexpensive accommodation—the tourist safari trade is well established in East Africa. The upper end of the accommodation market is satisfactorily catered for in Nairobi.

Safaris

A safari is an essential part of the East African experience (with cameras rather than guns these days).

It is impossible to walk the streets of Nairobi, or stay in any of the hotels, without being offered 'safaris'. Many safari companies also have street offices. The cheapest method is to arrange the safari yourself, particularly if you can get a group of six-eight together. The vehicles are usually Nissan-type minibuses with 'pop-tops' for viewing. By paying more for a safari you get a better painted and upholstered vehicle, but even the best vehicles break down. For a seven-day safari including food and tent accommodation, taking in Maasai Mara, Amboseli and Lake Nakuru, expect to pay from \$A400 upwards—it will be an experience you won't forget. These parks can be quite crowded during peak season—it can be difficult to discern whether it is the wildlife or the Nissan vans that are migrating at some locations!

In Tanzania safaris are more organized and expensive as there are greater distances involved. Park and camping fees are higher, too. The vehicles are usually dilapidated four-wheel-drives, which can make things pretty exciting. Nevertheless, the famous Ngorongoro Crater is an amazing spectacle (expect to pay at least \$A300 for three days).

In Uganda it is challenging just to reach most safari locations, due to a lack of transport and the condition of the roads. Tragically, the wildlife populations were decimated during the civil war. If you do make it there, however, there won't be many other tourists.

Trekking arrangements

All arrangements for the Rwenzori can and should be made with Rwenzori Mountaineering Services in Kasese, the nearest town to the mountains. They can organize guides, porters and park entry fees; they will also arrange transport and food buying if required. Basic foods can be bought in Kasese but shopping in Nairobi provides more variety. A six-seven day Bujuku-Mubuku trek will cost \$A150-200.

Guides and porters for Mt Kenya can either be hired easily at Naro Moru on the main road west of the mountain or, less readily, in Chogoria to the east, although they are neither compulsory nor

necessary. From the main road you can either walk (one day) or hire a vehicle (not cheap)—a painful choice—to the park entrance, where fees are payable (\$A25 a night).

Mt Kilimanjaro is the most organized, restricted and expensive of the three areas. Compulsory guides and porters can be arranged readily through tour operators in Arusha or Moshi or on the streets of Moshi, as can transport up the lower slopes. Park and camping fees are not cheap, and even less so if you wish to stay anywhere on the mountain other than in the huts on the Marangu Route. Fees are payable at Marangu Gate—regardless of whether you are intending to trek another route—before your intended departure date, which must be fixed beforehand. Expect to pay \$A600 or more in fees and other costs (tips are extra) for five (often rather uncomfortable) days on the mountain.

Photography

A range of films is available only in Nairobi, but it is probably best to take a supply with you. Try to avoid multiple airport X-rays. For wildlife photography during safaris a longer focal length lens, ideally 300 millimetres, is desirable although shorter lenses are still useful. A tripod is an essential accessory, at least in the dense forests on the mountains' lower slopes. Dust and grit are a problem on the lowlands, especially on safaris during the dry seasons. Conversely, rain and moisture could cause problems in the Rwenzori. Don't leave film in direct sunlight although the climate is not excessively hot—I had no problems with heat damage. In the mountains it is often below freezing point at night, but not enough to create problems with film or equipment. Be considerate when taking 'people photographs'—in the most popular areas, not unreasonably, a payment is expected.

Afternoon cloud is typical in the mountains but is rarely particularly thick and so photographs taken at this time can display a bluish cast unless a warming filter is used. Equatorial latitudes result in a high contrast between sunlight and shadow areas during the day, which can necessitate more selective exposure than is normal. Also, the sun rises and sets more directly than in temperate areas, with the period of low, reddish light quite short.

Maps and guides

Detailed maps and guides are not easy to obtain before arriving in East Africa. The guides noted below are the most useful and were readily available in Nairobi bookshops. Stanfords in London may be worth a try if you wish to peruse them prior to your trip. Very general trekking information is contained in guides such as those published by Lonely Planet, but perusal of the other references below will give a better idea of the terrain.

Further reading

- Allan, I (ed) 1991, *Guide to Mount Kenya and Kilimanjaro*, Mountain Club of Kenya.
- Benazzi, F 1989, *No Picnic on Mt Kenya*, Patrick Stephens.
- Else, D 1993, *Trekking in East Africa*, Lonely Planet.
- Savage, M 1988, *Kilimanjaro—1:50 000 Map and Guide*.
- Shipton, E 1985, 'Upon that Mountain', in *Shipton: the Six Mountain Travel Books*, Diadem/The Mountaineers.
- Tilman, H W 1983, 'Snow on the Equator', in *Tilman: the Seven Mountain Travel Books*, Diadem.
- Welochowski, A 1989, *Rwenzori—Map and Guide*.
- Welochowski, A & Savage, M 1988, *Mt Kenya—1:50 000 Map and Guide*.
- Yeoman, C 1989, *Africa's Mountains of the Moon*, Penguin/Eimtree Books. ■

A recently built hut is situated at 4500 metres on rock slabs on the south-eastern side of Mt Stanley, near the Elena Glacier. This is reached by way of a steep climb up the Groundsel Gully, or directly from Scott-Elliott Pass, above Bujuku Lake. Our heavy packs made the climb quite a grind, and the smooth, snow-slickened slabs to the hut were a particularly delicate and unexpected finale. The Elena Glacier, lying a few minutes across the sloping slabs from the hut, is the easiest access route to the Stanley Plateau and the peaks of Alexandra and Margherita beyond.

Our first morning at Elena dawned misty but, with indications of clear skies above, we set off for Alexandra. By the time the Stanley Plateau was reached, we were above the cloud. The peaks of Alexandra, Moebius and Elena shone in the sun around us and Mt Speke floated above the cloud across the Bujuku valley—a perfect African alpine day. The Stanley Plateau Glacier, at 4800 metres and about one square kilometre in area, lies atop Mt Stanley and straddles the Nile-Zaire continental watershed and the Uganda-Zaire border. Glaciers drain from it in three directions—it is truly the roof of Africa and is an incredibly beautiful area. The climb to Alexandra (5091 metres) was straightforward, up a steep snow-slope and along a rocky, rime-encrusted ridge to the summit. We spent a long time on the summit admiring the extensive view of the Stanley Plateau to nearby Margherita and west across the hazy foothills of Zaire.

The next day we decided to visit Zaire. Another traverse of the Stanley Plateau, again in clear, fine weather, preceded a steep descent of the West Stanley Glacier to the head of the Kamusoso valley, with the aptly named Lakes Blanc, Gris and Vert below. The Zaire side of the Rwenzori is much drier than the





Hall Tarns, on the slopes of Mt Kenya. **Right**, some of the weird Mt Kenyan vegetation: 'Cousin It' lobelia (foreground) and giant groundsel.

Ugandan slopes, and this valley is typically barren and rocky with the odd groundsel sheltering behind boulders. We spent a lazy afternoon in the sun, gazing at the steep glaciers and ramparts of Mt Stanley until disturbed by a strong, hot wind. We returned to Uganda the next day by way of the Stanley Plateau and Moebius in warm, still conditions yet again. The Rwenzori weren't supposed to be like this.

Given the perfect previous days, a snowfall overnight and a grey dawn were more than enough to dampen our enthusiasm for another outing. We packed up and descended to Scott-Elliott Pass, then skirted beneath the huge cliffs of Mt Baker on the way to Kitandara Lakes. These lakes lie in a particularly scenic valley on the western slopes of the Rwenzori, a fine place to spend a few days. The following afternoon, however, we moved to a camp high on Mt Baker. The next morning I rose early and scrambled to Edward (4843 metres), the mountain's highest peak, for a solitary view of the colourful sunrise on the peaks of Mt Stanley across the valley.

Our descent from Mt Baker followed an unconventional route but provided an unsurpassed opportunity to view the gardens of moss-carpeted rock which lie just below the zone of bare rock and

snow. We crossed the continental divide again at Freshfield Pass, the head of the Mubuku valley—surely from here it would be all downhill! Shelves dotted with groundsel separated descents of steep rock-steps. A huge overhanging bluff, Bujongolo, provides an extensive dry area and was used as a Base Camp by the Duke of Abruzzi's 1906 expedition, which climbed most of the Rwenzori's high peaks. It was a tempting place to stop but we pushed on, entering again the zone of mud and steep, root-laced descents.

The descent continued the following day, now down and beside waterfalls—excessively exciting in the wet I suspect—by way of more mud, a river-crossing and a ridge-traverse through thick bamboo. The rapid descent from Mt Baker graphically displayed the distinct altitudinal zonation of the Rwenzori vegetation, with a mercifully lighter pack facilitating its appreciation! We halted early at Nyabitaba Hut, not wanting it all to end too quickly, then descended back to the fields of Nyakalengija the next morning.

We bumped back along the road to Kasese in the back of a ute. The mountains were unusually clear for so late in the day and the glaciers of Mts Speke and Stanley glistened in the distance.

A high-speed blow-out in one of the double rear wheels of a bus, which subsequently showed no slackening of

speed, and another selection of break-neck *matatu* rides provided considerable excitement during the return to Kenya and Nairobi.

Of the East African mountain treks, Mt Kenya has the easiest access and is the most straightforward to organize. Its lower slopes are easily reached by bus from Nairobi and roads approach the tree-line, and become trekking routes, on three sides of the mountain. The road network exists largely to service forestry areas. Mt Kenya National Park lies mostly above the tree-line and the lower mountain forest is at the continual mercy of politically fickle forest policies. Significant areas of the lower slopes of Mt Kenya have been converted to pine plantations.

We spent a night at Naro Moru village, which is on the main road north from Nairobi and at the foot of Mt Kenya. The previous year we had eaten a voluminous post-trek dinner in the bar here, the ancient juke-box blaring in a corner and the room pulsating with happy, dancing, inebriated villagers.

We drove up to the park gate and the meteorological station beyond, the start of the Naro Moru Route which is the easiest and most direct trekking route to Mt Kenya. It is now traversed by an increasing number of organized and independent trekkers and, particularly in the wetter areas, is showing the impact. The Naro Moru Route soon emerges from the tree-line and enters the

'vertical bog'—in reality a series of poorly drained shelves. However, attempts to find the driest option have resulted in extensive track braiding. The route eventually leaves the tussock-covered ridge crest and sides through open, giant groundsel forest, with the occasional strange 'ostrich-plume' lobelia, reminiscent of the Addams Family's Cousin It! This lobelia comprises a spike up to a metre tall, which at first glance appears to be sheathed in feathers. In the upper Naro Moru valley the route passes a large stone hut for trekkers and a Rangers' Post. We climbed further, to a terrace situated above the track and below Mt Kenya's impressive South Face, where we set up camp sufficiently out of sight not to be disturbed.

The previous year we had plodded slowly up the eastern slopes of the mountain from Chogoria. The slow pace had aided our acclimatization and allowed time to explore the surrounding area, which included strange rock outcrops formed by differential erosion of lava and ash deposits and copes of giant tree-groundsel growing beneath rock bluffs, themselves alive with bounding, squeaking hyrax. The hyrax is a large, rodent-like creature actually related to the elephant although there is certainly no superficial resemblance! One hyrax, braver than its mates and obviously aware that the two-legged intruders carried food, crept closer until it was eating from our hands. On one occasion a hyrax tried out its teeth on one of my plastic climbing boots, so they obviously aren't too fussy about what they eat.

Near the highest point of our trek from Chogoria we had traversed a scree-slope, thick mist limiting visibility to 50 metres, the altitude noticeable if one pushed too hard. Cresting a rise, we had encountered a lighter and brighter area ahead across an icy pool—the Lewis Glacier. We had camped near the pool; the squalid Austrian Hut nearby not being particularly inviting. From here it had been a short scramble to Point Lenana (4985 metres), the highest point which can be reached by non-climbers. A frigid pre-dawn ascent had provided a spectacular view of Nelion, the eastern peak of Mt Kenya, lit a brilliant orange at dawn while all below was still in darkness.

The following year I watched the full moon set; Hut Tarn shimmered across the valley and the first light of a pink dawn flushed the crags above. I was again scrambling up beside the Lewis Glacier, this time intent on the peak of Mt Kenya itself. The normal route is a rockclimb up the South-east Ridge of Nelion. We moved at a leisurely pace, weighed down by too much gear and climbing as two pairs, enjoying the situations and the view, until the ubiquitous cloud rose to envelop us. Greg and I spent the night on

the summit, as planned, while Ron and Andrew slept on narrow ledges below. At sunset the afternoon clouds fell away and the temperature plummeted. We felt on top of the world, with an extensive (albeit hazy) view and no other mountains anywhere in sight.

A trekking route circumnavigates the peak, remaining above 4400 metres most of the way and visiting a number of the clear, green tarns perched in basins below the crags. After a night's rest at our camp, Greg and I set off up the Lewis Glacier again. Having crampons we could take a short cut across the saddle between Nelion and Point Lenana, then down the steeper Gregory Glacier. The more usual route passes below and to the east of Point Lenana.

Sliding down snow-tongues and bounding down scree-slopes took us into the head of the Mackinder valley and below the spectacular North Face of Mt Kenya. At this time of year (late January), the northern face of the mountain was experiencing winter as evidenced by the ice that filled cracks and gullies, while the southern faces were in summer—a peculiar result of the mountain's equatorial location.

We lunched in the sun at Kami Tarn, accompanied by a curious hyrax perched in a particularly scenic position on a shelf with a groundsel and lobelia rock-garden. The barren ramparts of the mountain towered above us. From the tarn the series of ascents and descents continues, with barren ridge-tops, more green tarns and rock-gardens alternating round the western slopes of the mountain as we proceeded back to camp.

Ron and I had decided to descend the mountain by the little-used Burguret Route, on the western slopes. Apart from the attraction of the little known, the western slopes offered an experience of the approach to the mountain used by Felice Benuzzi in 1943. Benuzzi, an Italian mountaineer, was interned in a POW camp below Mt Kenya in 1943. To counteract the boredom of camp routine he planned and, with another prisoner, carried out an amazing attempted ascent of the mountain. They made or stole their equipment in the camp, broke out and spent 15 days on the mountain. A successful attempt was foiled by bad weather and lack of food.

We climbed past Hut Tarn and crossed the barren ridge crest, littered with boulders festooned with beard-like lichen. We descended into the Burguret valley and tussock-hopped down to the distinctive Highland Castle, a series of towers and bluffs of volcanic rock atop the ridge crest, honeycombed with overhangs and grottoes. We spent the night under one of the overhangs, surrounded by buffalo droppings and footprints.

Buffalo trails proved quite useful in the thicker vegetation on the lower slopes. However, we followed them with some

trepidation in the bamboo zone; the thickness of the vegetation precluded rapid exits from the trail and the possibility of meeting an angry buffalo round a blind bend was real—some of the footprints did not look very old.

We emerged from the bamboo, with relief, and stumbled on to an old logging road. Despite past logging, there remained some huge, old trees in the tangled forest beside the road—had these trees perhaps been too big? We reached a small village after several hours of downhill travel, my heavy pack bouncing uncomfortably on my back. We managed to get a ride out to the main



road on a logging truck—what else? The workers, who like us clung to the load as we jolted further downhill, were keen to hear about our route as it is apparently very little traversed these days, and certainly not by unaccompanied *mzungus*.

A high-speed Peugeot taxi ride to the Tanzanian border followed by a somewhat slower, lumbering Tanzanian bus ride brought us to Moshi by late afternoon, in time to watch the setting sun light Mt Kilimanjaro's glaciers. The mountain rises immediately north of the town and we hoped that in a few days we would be somewhere up on those glaciers.

The initial stage of organizing the trip—finding a guide—was solved the first time we stepped on to the street.

'Kennedy' asked whether we intended to attempt Mt Kilimanjaro, offered himself as a guide and proudly showed us his 'licence'. His price was good so we accepted. Ron and I knew exactly where we wanted to go, how to go about getting there, and what the price should be. If one lacks any of this information, such a method of obtaining a guide, while relatively cheap, is not necessarily recommended.

We drove up to Kilimanjaro National Park's Marangu Gate in a ute belonging to one of Kennedy's many relatives. We registered, made our booking for the trek to start the next day, and (after some second thoughts) handed over the expensive park and camping fees. Back in Moshi we toured the market with Kennedy although I doubt that we received any better deals in the bargaining because of his presence. Like many town markets of any size, most of the Moshi market is covered and is full of smells and colour. The stall holders, predominantly women, sell a wide range of utensils, tropical fruits and vegetables, and dried fish.

Next morning Kennedy turned out to be suspiciously unavailable. However, his 'cousin' Joachim and 'uncle' Eric announced that they were coming instead. Joachim was apparently the guide and Eric the porter, the distinction being that Eric carried their sack of gear more often. Most Tanzanian porters carry gear in sacks which they balance on their heads, and Eric and Joachim were no exception. This was an impressive achievement over the steep, uneven terrain of the Umbwe Route, which ascends the southern slopes of Mt Kilimanjaro directly and spectacularly.

We bounced up a rutted track on Mt Kilimanjaro's southern slopes in a dilapidated Land Rover, driven by yet another member of the family. The Land Rover left us in a grassy clearing where the track narrowed, steepened and entered the forest. Joachim and Eric announced that they were off for a few minutes to visit friends, and strolled away in the same direction the vehicle had just gone. Ron and I sat down for a quick lunch in the sun, after which we intended to undertake the leisurely climb to a rock overhang at 2800 metres, where we planned to spend the night—or so we thought. After three hours Joachim and Eric still hadn't returned. We discussed the prospect of shouldering all our gear and leaving without them (we were planning on carrying most of it anyway, being fitter and more acclimatized). However, the penalties for being caught in the park without the compulsory guide are severe.

Eventually Joachim and Eric came into view, well lubricated with beer and, we later discovered, carrying a supply of sweet banana wine. We were not amused, and raced off uphill with Joachim and Eric in pursuit, hoping there



Lush moss-groundsels forest in the Bujuku valley, Rwenzori Mountains, Uganda.

was still sufficient daylight to reach the rock-shelter.

We were all soon soaked with sweat in the hot and humid conditions, and the head-down pace gave us no opportunity to appreciate the tangled forest through which we charged. The rock-shelter was reached just as it got dark. I was not as hungry as I had expected after the exertions of the last few hours and shared my meal with an appreciative Joachim and Eric, supplementing their dried fish and banana wine.

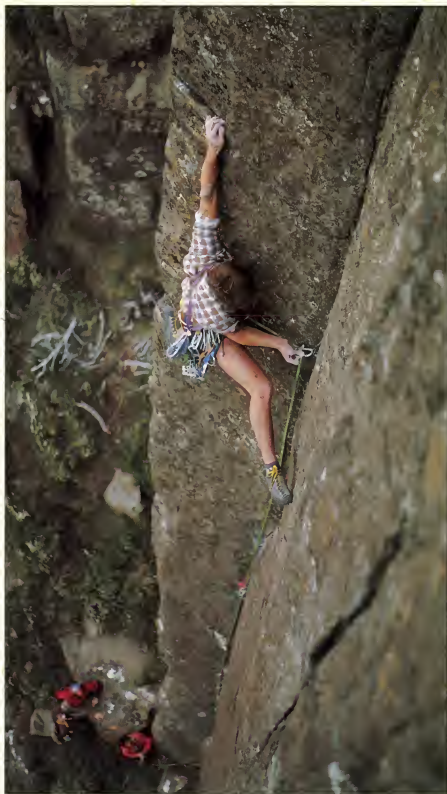
Above the shelter the ridge narrowed and steepened, initially winding through twisted, moss-covered trees and then through open heath with scattered giant groundsels. The view was spectacular. It was early the next morning and the clouds had not yet obscured the

mountain above. The summit of Mt Kilimanjaro was still 2500 metres above us, its South-west Face consisting of the awesome Breach Wall with glaciers tumbling 1000 metres down beside it. Waterfalls could be heard in the shaded depths of the Umbwe Gorge more than 500 metres below.

We crossed the Great Barranco—a broad, deep valley above the Umbwe Gorge—and climbed steeply up its eastern flank to 4300 metres. Joachim and Eric left us, hoping a sprint round the southern flanks of the mountain would see them to Horombo Huts and two comfortable, leisurely and social days with their many relatives and friends amongst fellow guides and porters. They undoubtedly had cause to question our sanity as we plodded further upwards into the grey afternoon cloud. We planned to ascend the Heim Glacier, traverse the summit and meet Joachim

ALL SUMMER

Bruce Cameron looks back with nostalgia on long climbing days in Tasmania



Warm days, blue skies, endless, unclimbed rock, camp fires at night and a dozerf drunken coppers sprawled around the dying embers of the last log. A typical memory of a climbing trip to Tasmania.

Climbing in Tassie provides a stark contrast to my home cliffs in the Blue Mountains. There are no rings, bolts or chains on the more markedly wilderness-style cliffs; just endless beauty, remoteness and colour.

It is a true mountain experience. A link with the past. A solid walk in to the cliff, a campsite by an alpine tarn set among jumbles of jagged boulders, a rack with Hexes, a pack full of grog, wind, rain and mist.

There would always be a cast of celebrities, usually guided to the latest cliff by the black-bearded 'madman' of Ben Lomond, Robert McMahon. Fantini was always there climbing new routes by the dozen!

On the edge of the Ben Lomond plateau lies Ragged Jack. A series of bluffs and columns which surely provide some of the best crack-climbing in the country. I remember climbing with Fantini on Blood and Iron (22) with his calf muscles bulging and his veins protruding like garden hoses. My memories will never fade; unlike my arms which wasted away near the top of the route, Fantini largely hauling me to the summit so that he could start another new route.

I can still picture Fantini on the top belay of Too Low for Zero (21) at Ragged Jack. The wind was cutting. His swarthy face was etched by the endless exposure to the harsh elements he has encountered while climbing all over the world.

Fantini called out to his second to 'hurry up' as the wind and mist swirled around the buttress in freezing blasts. Fantini is used to poor weather in the mountains; his seconds are used to the occasional verbal encouragement from above to climb faster. All seemed normal for a day on the rock with Fantini. 'Footage, mate, footage', John would always say as the sun was setting; 'time for another route', he would shout to the team as they donned their packs and

Steve Moon on the second ascent of Blood and Iron (22), Ben Lomond plateau, Tasmania. **Right**, three climbing stalwarts—from top: John Fantini, Robert McMahon and Gerry Narkowicz. All photos Bruce Cameron

LONG

walked back to camp. A bottle of red by the fire...a far more appealing attraction.

Greg Moore wouldn't have missed a trip for a new Ducati, his camp-fire repertoire with a beer bottle leaving the team stunned on more than one occasion. Steve 'Moss' Moon and brothers Frank and Will were often there, along with a host of Tasmanians like Smith, Deka and Ling. Many new routes were completed; many memories remain.

The gallery of onlookers was always amazed at the young powerhouse, Gerry Narkowicz. Tanned, rippling with muscle, tenacious and bold, Narkowicz put in a few good years until one day he found God (in Launceston). The extremist was happy at last—and Tassie lost a great climber.

Precise pillars of stone, fused, cracked and textured, rocketing to the sky in a big mountain landscape are what the Ben Lomond plateau is all about—it is a crack-climbing heaven. How nice to think of the past; memories of good times on the Ben are like red wine: there is never enough, but they get better with the years!

A trip south would usually include a visit to Coles Bay on the east coast. After the Ben it was calming and restful. It gave your minced and bloody hands time to heal. Beautiful walls of granite laid like tombstones against the coastline provide the scene for some spectacular climbing. The cliff-top campsite with vast ocean views, set among singing casuarinas, is stunning. A sunny Coles Bay day is a step into wonderland. There are walls, cracks and corners, the standard of the routes so good that you often hope they will never end. By contrast, on a cold, windy day an abseil into one of the many coastline gullies is like being dangled on a string-down some gurgling monster's throat.

There are many other great cliffs in Tasmania where people with a sense of adventure and a love of exploration can get away from the more modern scene and step across the line, experience the smell of lichen on the rock, slot a number seven Hex into the back of a crack, build a camp fire, drink a bottle of red and talk about the good old days around the embers of the last log. ■

Bruce Cameron, a rockclimber who lives in the Blue Mountains west of Sydney, has been climbing for nearly 20 years. He has been a regular visitor to Tasmania over the last 15 years and he enjoys on-sight adventure routes and the occasional moderate sport route for fun.



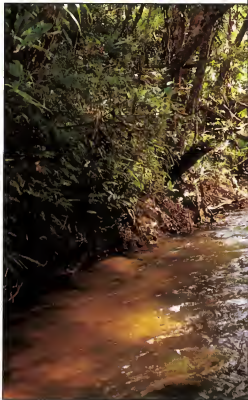
THE LONELINESS OF THE LONG- DISTANCE PADDLER

Peter Treseder's river trips on Cape York Peninsula, by *Ian Brown*

In June 1989 Peter Treseder and four companions were driving slowly along the track to Captain Billy Landing on the distant north-east coast of Cape York Peninsula, wondering from which point they would dive off into the wilds. The top of the legendary Jardine River lurked somewhere to their west and they had come to make the first complete descent, all the way to the sea. Treseder recalls: 'It was stinking hot and the jungle on either side of the road looked impenetrable. The last thing I wanted to do was to get out of the vehicle and disappear into the scrub.'

He was consumed with anxiety about the journey ahead. How far would they have to walk to find navigable water? What would the terrain be like? Would their inflatable canoes be the right craft? 'You worry about all those things, whether you'll fail, or whether you're going to die in there or not be able to come out, but the biggest unknown and what scared me the most were the crocodiles...'

Peter Treseder's introduction to the wild rivers of Cape York Peninsula was typically unorthodox. In 1988 he conceived the notion to attempt the 'mother of all tiger walks': to run the length of mainland Australia from the tip of Cape York to Wilsons Promontory. The first difficulty he encountered, jogging south down the old Telegraph Road on his way to success, was the massive Jardine River, nearly 200 metres wide and flowing deep



and strong—a haunt of saltwater crocodiles. It was dark and he couldn't see the other side but as he doesn't like to waste time, Treseder waded in and started swimming. While claiming to be the 'world's worst canoeist', Treseder once held his high school swimming record for the 50 metres freestyle. Hauling himself out on the other side of the river—still in one piece—he loped off down the road, dripping into the bull-dust.

Some months later Treseder arrived in my living-room to discuss the Jardine River, which had become his latest obsession. He had read that the river had never been completely traversed, and knew that a party of which I had been a member had rafted a large part of it in 1987. The head-waters, however, were unknown. 'When I did my run', Treseder explained, 'Queensland was a huge mystery to me, and Cape York was even more mysterious. What appealed to me about the Jardine was that I had an opportunity to do something within Australia no one else had ever done. That's what attracts me to all my trips.'

Treseder relishes the unknown quality of 'firsts', and the additional challenges they present. He overcomes these obstacles to his exploits through a combination of meticulous planning, an almost naive trust in himself and other people and a sheer determination matched only by his boldness. Uncanny

good luck often seems to follow. Treseder is a living advertisement for the power of positive thinking. As he interrogated me about the Jardine, I could see that he was single-minded right from the start: 'When I go into a trip I gather as much information as I can and try to account for all the problems that may occur. If I've thought of everything, hopefully I won't be surprised.'

The wilds of Cape York Peninsula were a perfect arena for Treseder's questing spirit. Australia's most northerly river, the Jardine is steeped in legend. Its relatively small catchment produces an impressive river of magnificently clear water which continues to flow right through the dry season. Traditionally it was the final and greatest obstacle on the road to Cape York, necessitating a deep and difficult crossing which tested vehicle and passengers. Steadily improving ferry arrangements have now eliminated this obstacle but not the feeling of mystery as to what lies upstream.

The river rises just three kilometres from the east coast and meanders through remote wilderness for 180 kilometres to empty into the Arafura Sea only 30 kilometres south of Torres Strait. The upper catchment is a rolling, sandstone mosaic of rain forest, swamps and scrub, entirely contained in the Jardine River National Park and as unsullied as any wilderness in the country.

With an objective like the Jardine, Treseder had first to round up a suitable party, then solve the logistics of getting to the river. He rang a total stranger—Ron Moon of Melbourne—and put the idea to him. A very seasoned Cape York traveller and author of a guidebook to the region, Moon immediately agreed to participate. He would solve the access and logistic problems. Treseder then roped in two bushwalking mates, Steve Irwin and Warwick Blayden, to complete the paddling party, with Dave Moon to staff the support vehicle.

From the roadside jungle they finally selected a spur which they hoped would get them to the river. Hoisting huge loads—which included deflated canoes and their paddles, and food and equipment for ten days—the four severed their ties to civilization and launched into the uncertainty of the Cape York wilderness. Treseder's first surprise was a pleasant one: 'We got in there and within about three kilometres hit beautiful water right in the headwaters; a pool about two metres deep with big fish swimming around. The river was fantastic, clear water with rain forest overhanging from both sides. Right then and there a lot of the worries I had about walking and navigating through this country came to an end.'

They all jumped up and down like excited children, inflated their boats and paddled off. Cape York had been lashed



'Superman' meets his match? Peter Treseder encounters one of the Jardine River's human-eating crocodiles. Steve Irwin and Ian Brown

with late wet-season storms, which had put plenty of water into the rivers. Unfortunately their jubilation was short-lived. Almost immediately the group was confronted with the first of many complex log jams, forcing them into the water to manoeuvre the boats through a maze of floating obstacles. Progress was slow and tedious for three full days. There were other difficulties: early on the first day one of the canoes suffered a huge rip from a sharp log; patching it used up half of their repair kit. On the second day came another grinding tear. They were all worried, especially Treseder in his capacity as leader: 'We only had enough glue for one more big rip, and that was a real problem—we had a long way to go, our support vehicle had left, and we were getting deeper and deeper into remote country.'

On the third day—still 150 sweat- and adrenalin-drenched kilometres from the sea—Treseder and Irwin got the fright of their lives. 'I scared the living pants off us', Treseder says. 'We came round a corner and suddenly we saw about a five metre croc sunbaking up on a bank, and this thing landed—splat!—right in front

of our boat! We both had the same reaction: wet our pants and back-paddle as fast as we could!' That night was the most depressing of the journey. 'Steve went down sick, we were behind schedule, we had crocodiles all around us and our boats were vulnerable. We felt really lousy.'

It was with great relief that they passed the confluence of the unnamed eastern branch of the Jardine early on the fourth day. The river was now much more substantial, travel easier and the bitter-sweet challenge of the unknown was at an end. The rest of the river had been paddled before. Backed by a fast flow, they pushed hard for two days to make the 90 kilometres to the Telegraph Road crossing and relative safety. The middle reaches of the river surge through avenues of rain forest and paperbarks, and feature huge sandbanks, deep bends and water-lilies. There are no significant rapids to break the smooth and powerful flow.

Travelling light, the canoeists tackled the final wide and sluggish stretch to the river mouth on their sixth day. 'Down the end of the river, we had to get out and walk. There we were, sloshing around up

to our knees with the banks a kilometre away on either side. It was really quite daunting. You've got these big monsters floating around and *you* form part of their diet!'

Five years later, what does he think of the trip? 'It was fantastic, the country is really remote and very beautiful. (We saw cassowaries on the side of the river.) It's the remoteness and the wildness of the place that attracts.' His appetite was whetted, and for someone of Treseder's drive there is no respite. With one achievement accomplished, it was on to something else. 'Even while we were packing up on the beach, I was already thinking about what I was going to do next.'

What he intended to do next—along with Ron Moon and Steve Irwin from the Jardine and newcomer Dave Dickford—was the mighty Archer River. Driving up the Peninsula in June 1990, they soon realized that a late wet season had defeated them. Ironically, although there was plenty of water, the rains had made it impossible to get a vehicle to the river mouth to get them out at the end of their descent. The disappointed party travelled north, casting about for another



An estuarine crocodile smiles at the sight of passing fools in inflatable kayaks. Brown, **Right**, wrong way, go back. Brown, **Far right**, Peter Treseder on the upper Eliot Creek with Ron Moon and Dave Dickford behind. Irwin



suitable objective. At Moon's suggestion they aimed for the un navigated Dulhunty River, resolving to warm up on Eliot Creek.

Eliot Creek is a major tributary of the Jardine, entering it near the Telegraph Road crossing. It rises in low hills and flows north for 80 kilometres. Running close to the Telegraph Road, it is readily accessible, with two popular campsites on its banks. In his usual thorough fashion, Treseder wanted to make sure that it would be a *full* descent of the stream, so they started walking from the very top of the catchment, inflatable rafts on their backs. At first they followed a

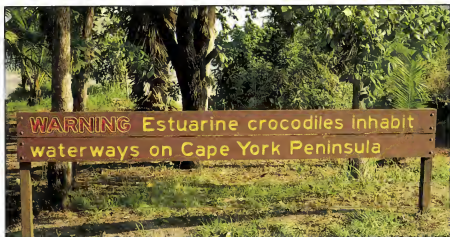
trickle through beautiful open country with fields of pitcher plants. When the trickle had swelled to a flow, the rafts were launched and they followed the pristine creek down through layers of sandstone. Treseder was delighted: 'It was just fantastic: rapids, deep pools—the whole lot.'

In a very long day, the party made it to the first vehicle access at Flying Fox Falls (where they swapped to Canadian canoes) and then on to Eliot Falls. An early start on the second day had them pushing through the final 50 kilometres to the Jardine, at first through more cascades and pools. Treseder's canoeing skills were put to the test: 'We couldn't

crocodiles all around us—that I'd never get in a boat again, as soon as we reached the beach at the Jardine I was planning the Dulhunty.'

The difficulty of just getting to a river and getting out again is one of the greatest obstacles to any would-be river-runner on Cape York Peninsula, even one with Treseder's bull-terrier tenacity. The Dulhunty poses special problems: it empties into the vast Port Musgrave on the west coast, one of the major crocodile breeding areas in Queensland, and the final section of the trip would involve a 20 kilometre paddle across the estuary to the nearest vehicle access. The group managed to force their

achieved. If you'd been in Cairns early in June 1991, you might have seen a determined, slightly distracted fellow in spectacles driving a hire-car fast towards Mareeba on the Atherton Tableland, complete with a freshly purchased old kayak sticking ridiculously through the sun-roof. Treseder stashed the boat at a point on the longest of the many sources of the Mitchell River, went back to the top and started running. He was completely alone and unsupported.



risk falling into the water [because of] crocodiles, so whenever we came to a set of waterfalls we'd get out and drag the canoes round. One time we decided to give it a go. The boat turned sideways and filled with water and we were tossed out. My leg got stuck in some rocks and my immediate thought was that I was going to drown, because the water was forcing my head under. I finally got my foot out, then I thought I was going to be eaten by a crocodile!'

In fact, they saw no sign of 'Gulf goannas' in the upper reaches, but as they got down towards the confluence with the Jardine River the creek left the rocky terrain and flowed through more gentle country: crocodile country. 'We'd try and keep the canoes close together to present a much bigger profile to scare off the crocodiles', Treseder recalls. '[On one occasion] we came round a corner into a huge lily-pond, and a crocodile came aquaplaning with its head out of the water, right towards the first canoe as if it was charging. It finally dropped down and submerged right in front of the canoe, and we all went flying out of there. We had a few experiences that really put the wind up us. By the time we reached the junction we were all pretty nerve-racked.'

'We wanted to do the Dulhunty next, but there was still disparity in the group about whether we wanted to subject ourselves to more crocodiles. While I had said to myself on the Eliot—when we had

way through fallen trees and a tidal bog on an obscure track to reach the tidal section of the river. This would be their depot and their exit point.

The Dulhunty River turned out to be a pleasant walk and paddle of 120 kilometres but was even worse than Eliot Creek for crocodiles. They would come swimming towards the boats, and only submerge at the last second. 'We'd see this huge shape passing under us, and sometimes they'd bump or scrape the bottom of the boat', recalls Treseder. The situation was threatening and emotionally draining, and by the time they'd reached their depot they had had enough. The lower river traversed an inhospitable terrain of swamps, mangroves, mosquitoes and more crocodiles; there were no campsites. Treseder was still focused on completing the whole river, so he and Moon took the outboard dinghy to the river mouth and back in a tense race against tides and engine failure.

Perhaps not surprisingly, Treseder had great difficulty raising a party for a third season of paddling Cape York rivers. He was still keen on adding the Archer to his bag of rivers, but it seemed as if everyone else had experienced enough close calls and constant stress in the wilds. It must take more than fear to stop Treseder: he went it alone. With just two weeks available for the expedition, however, there was great uncertainty as to what he could get done and how it could be



The Mitchell rises in the mountains behind Cairns and runs some 700 kilometres to the Gulf of Carpentaria near the Aboriginal town of Kowanyama. With a mean annual flow of twelve million megalitres, this is one of Australia's greatest rivers. Like the Jardine River and Eliot Creek, some of it had been paddled before, but Treseder intended to make the first complete and continuous descent. Most people would be appalled at the prospect of setting off alone on an immense journey through such lonely country with only a minimum of gear. Treseder is no different—he was terrified as well.

His way of coping with the fear was to put his head down and go for it, paddling almost continuously day and night with very little rest. He recalls: 'The main problem was fatigue, and canoeing an unknown river at night. You can see more crocs at night because of their eyes. That became very off-putting.'

'On none of the rivers that I've done have crocodiles stayed on the bank. It's always like a Tarzan movie where you can look down the beaches and see them sliding into the river in front of you. In one case the croc obviously didn't hear

me, because I was pretty quiet. I came round the corner—the croc was asleep on a sandy bank about a metre high. [Upon hearing me] it came off the bank trying to get into the water. It wasn't trying to get me, but it landed on the front of my boat. It would've been about five metres long and weighed at least half a tonne, and just flipped the boat over end to end. I ended up in the water, I lost all my gear and my boat went floating off to the other side of the river. Nothing on this earth was going to get me back into the river so I swam out to my side—which was only a metre or two—then had to go back up the river, cross at a shallow rapid and collect my boat. From then on I kept my gear on my back.'

What little gear he carried was very important: food, a few clothes, maps and compass, water-bottle, headtorch and emergency items.

Crocodiles weren't the only faunal hazard: 'I was trying to get some sleep one night when a wild pig chased me up a tree. I'd done a first aid course the week before at work and had learnt the collar-and-cuff sling, so I used that to tie myself into the tree, a big melaleuca, because I didn't want to fall out. The branch I'd crawled up hung over the river and I could see eyes in there.' Treseder spent five hours up the tree while the pig rooted around below and the crocodiles brooded.

With incredible luck, Treseder paddled out into the Mitchell estuary after five days and found two fishermen in a shark boat. They took him and his boat 280 kilometres north to Weipa, where he talked two American tourists—they thought he was Crocodile Dundee—into helping him to execute his next objective. Treseder convinced the pair—who were in the area to fish—that they should fish Port Stewart, which would enable him to snaffle the Stewart River. The Stewart rises in the McIlwraith Range near Coen and flows 110 kilometres to the east. It was just a day trip for Treseder, running the top half and then frequently dragging his boat over sand between big pools, watched by large crocodiles in the lower reaches. It was, for Treseder, a sort of rest day before the next big effort.

Beyond the Stewart River rises the highest mountain on the Peninsula, a misty, unnamed point in the McIlwraith Range 824 metres above the sparkling waters of the Great Barrier Reef. The dense rain forest feeds the head-waters of the mysterious Archer River, which runs

down through spectacular gorge country to arrive at the west coast near Aurukun some 320 kilometres further on. Treseder followed it from its high source, first on foot and then with his kayak. As he descended the mountain gorges he saw some of Cape York's special wildlife, including a cuscus and a rare green python. 'The Archer country was just beautiful: melaleuca swamps with lots of lorikeets feeding in the blossoms, coming in huge flocks.'



The still waters of Peach Creek (upper Archer River), Cape York Peninsula. *Brown*

Again, fatigue and the stress of travelling at night were major problems for Treseder. The thing I remember most about the crocs in the Archer was the barking sound they made at night, and their eyes in the water. There are lots and lots of crocs in the Archer.' Nevertheless the fabulous Archer River, which had probably never been paddled before, succumbed without incident to a blitz from the Treseder 'machine' in three days of grinding toil. Nature did, however, throw one spanner into the works of this particular 'machine' at the end of the journey.

Treseder had paddled right to the mouth of the river and was heading back into the estuary intending to cross the bay to Aurukun and fly out. Without warning, something grabbed the back of his kayak: 'It was like being in a washing-machine, with this thing of enormous power thrashing around with the boat. I never saw it, but it must have

been a big crocodile. I was tipped out and swam the 50 metres to shore, very fast. I reckon I broke my old school record! When I turned around, the boat was missing its last 20 centimetres and was floating out into the Gulf.' Luckily he was still carrying his gear on his back; his predicament, however, was grim.

'I was stuck out there in the middle of nowhere. Aurukun was ten kilometres across the bay with a very hungry crocodile in the middle of it, and there

was no way to get there. I felt bloody lonely.' With thousands of kilometres of solitary travel in the wilds behind him, Treseder had the skill and nerve not only to escape this very serious situation, but to turn it to his advantage. He went for the obvious but unlikely solution and ran home across the vast and featureless plains under the beating sun. He had always wanted to run across the Peninsula, anyway. Lack of water was his major worry—he uses a lot of it—so he tried to stay near the river. Untracked bush led to a series of vehicle tracks that took him back towards Coen. In order to make it a 'coast-to-coast' he jogged on to Port Stewart. Treseder demolished the 250 kilometres in only two days.

Treseder's tally on Cape York is impressive: six complete rivers and more than 1500 kilometres of paddling, 1100 kilometres by himself, probably all first complete descents and in admirable style. So, has Peter Treseder finished with Cape York? Have the crocodiles beaten him? Not likely. There are still unexplored corners and trips to be done. The wonder and challenge of this great wilderness still appeal to him. He seems to be driven in his solitary quests to confront his deepest fears, which he insists include heights, water—and crocodiles. No doubt, like the crew of the starship 'Enterprise', he will continue to 'boldly go where no one has gone before'.

Ian Brown (see Contributors in Wild no 28) has been a keen outdoors person for many years and is a writer and photographer with a special interest in Cape York Peninsula.

Peter Treseder's Cape York river trips

Date	River	River length	Trip length	Party
June 1989	Jardine	180 km	six days	Warwick Blayden, Steve Irwin, Ron Moon
June 1990	Eliot Crk	80 km	two days	Dave Dickford, Steve Irwin, Ron Moon
June 1990	Dulhunty	120 km	three days	as above
June 1991	Mitchell	700 km	five days	solo
June 1991	Stewart	110 km	one day	solo
June 1991	Archer	320 km	three days	solo

SUNSHINE STATE

Reflections on Queensland's natural beauty, by *Rob Stevens*







Left, spider's web on Lake Poona, Coolool National Park, south-east Queensland. **Below**, Warrawillah Creek at Little Ramsey Bay, Hinchinbrook Island, north Queensland. **Page 59**, Running Creek Falls, Lamington National Park, south-east Queensland.

Rob Stevens is a 29-year-old computer systems analyst from Brisbane who has been bushwalking for ten years. Initially using a camera to record scenes from walks, he now finds that a walk isn't worth while unless it is photogenic.



The ^{un}Flooding Lake Pedder

Geoff Mosley examines the environmental equivalent of raising the *Titanic*

At the end of January 1994 the General Assembly of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature—the world conservation union—at its 19th Session held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, passed a resolution calling upon the Governments of Tasmania and the Commonwealth of Australia to investigate the feasibility of the restoration of Lake Pedder. The first shot in the bold and imaginative campaign to restore one of Australia's greatest natural wonders had been fired.

News of the beginning of the campaign has been greeted with feelings which range from relief and excitement to sheer bewilderment and even downright hostility. 'Lake Pedder restored? What a preposterous idea' has been the reaction of some people.

Lake Pedder was drowned over 20 years ago. The artificially impounded waters have covered it continuously since mid-1972. Is it not disrespectful to disturb the dead, especially a feature which in death taught us so much about the need for environmental respect? Is it not better to keep intact the memories of the lake in its untainted glory even if, for many, it is an image garnered only from old photographs?

Such questions raise the vital unknown of whether Lake Pedder and its surrounding environment are really dead. What will the lake be like if it is unflooded? What about the cost; is it worth it? Are there not more important issues which deserve the time and financial resources of the environment movement? The persuasive answering of these



Frankland Peak towers above the extraordinary rippled beach of Lake Pedder, 1972. Les Southwell. **Opposite**, a view from the Frankland Range of Lakes Pedder and Maria, with the Coronets and the Sentinel Range behind, 1972. David Neilson

of

WILD CONSERVATION



key questions will be the very heart of any successful campaign to restore the lake.

In the early 1970s, as the second attempt was made to save Lake Pedder, the issue of its drowning received headline attention in the daily newspapers. Lake Pedder became a household name. Long before the 1994 restoration campaign began, its name lived on even amongst schoolchildren born after it sank without trace under the dark, peat-stained waters of the Huon-Serpentine impoundment.

Lake Pedder was the first truly national conservation issue in Australia. The second campaign to save it came at the time of the greatest surge of public interest in conservation in our history. The people's sentiment was that it should be saved but the mechanisms of government had still to catch up. The Commonwealth Government doubted its constitutional power to override the decision of a State government and lacked the political will to do so. In 1973, World Heritage listing of the Western Tasmanian Wilderness National Parks was still nine years in the future.

The context for restoration is completely different. Doubts about the Commonwealth's power to intervene were extinguished with the saving of the Franklin River in 1983 and the objective of restoring Lake Pedder is well within the Commonwealth's legitimate sphere as a protector of World Heritage Areas.

The fundamental aim of the campaign is clear: to restore a large, significant and strategic part of one of the world's most important World Heritage Areas.

There is little doubt that the successful restoration of Lake Pedder would bring important advantages to Australians of our generation but the benefits could be much wider than this: the restoration might stand as an international symbol of the value of environmental rehabilitation, and for centuries to come people might enjoy and gain understanding from the restored area and the events which brought it back to life from a watery grave.

Two things are at the core of the issue: the question of feasibility, and our attitude towards nature. Cost is not a



Mt Anne provides a majestic backdrop to two swimmers in Maria Creek, in 1972. *Southwell, Right*, a popular way of starting walking trips in South-west Tasmania was to fly in to Lake Pedder, as these people did in 1972. *Peter Dombrovskis*

hollow amongst glacial outwash material. Technically it is classified as a glacial outwash impoundment lake. The outwash came from cirque glaciers on the flanks of the Frankland Range located immediately to the south of the broad plain of the Serpentine River. In effect, the lake was impounded by a barrier composed of a thick apron of outwash material stretching across the valley. The same outwash aprons, or fans, have pushed the Serpentine River to the north side of the valley.

Lake Pedder is a product of the most recent ice-age. Until its geographic identity was lost from view by inundation, the lake had most likely existed for at least 10 000 years although recent research indicates that it may have existed even before the last glacial maximum. We can see relics of the forces which created the barrier and the lake if we look at the hollow, armchair-like

consideration: if something is worth doing we will do it. We must count the cost, of course, but it must not dissuade us if the other factors are in favour of action.

If the lake has been too badly damaged by inundation, the case for restoration will be weaker. And what about the plains which surround the lake? What are the prospects for their revegetation? Before I provide some answers to these questions it is important to describe the natural environment of the region, its value, and how we came to lose it.

Lake Pedder (and I refer to how it once was and can be again) is the sole example in Australia, and one of the best in the world, of a shallow lake occupying a

South-west Tasmania, 1994



cirques and cirque lakes near the crest of the range and the moraines (which run down the slopes) that show where glaciers once extended down almost to the plains. The glaciers which sculpted the mountain slopes probably survived for several thousand years after the end of the coldest period and, as they retreated, periglacial (freeze-thaw) processes continued the work of sculpting the range at a slower pace, to be succeeded eventually by the processes of fluvial (water-related) erosion.

Out of our sight beneath the waters of the reservoir is not only Lake Pedder; there are also the outwash/alluvial fans which made up the barrier behind which the lake formed. As the depositional material built up on the valley floor the Serpentine lost its cutting power and a series of meanders and billabongs developed, hence its name.

Powerful westerly winds—along with wave action—may have helped to deepen the lake bed during a drier period which some scientists believe occurred between 6000 and 3000 years ago. The lake has the shape of a rectangle with sides of 3.5 kilometres and 2.75 kilometres, respectively, and covers 9.7 square kilometres. Its maximum depth in summer was a little over three metres when last surveyed. Winter depths were only about 25 centimetres deeper but, because of the gently sloping nature of the eastern lake bed, the difference was sufficient to expose a large, sandy beach 600 metres broad and 2.75 kilometres long.

Comprised of fine-grained fractions of quartzite, this pinkish-hued beach was one of the most striking features of Lake Pedder, but what made it truly memorable was the surface pattern of large ripples, or 'subaqueous dunes', on the part of the beach nearest to the water's edge. These patterns projected herringbone-fashion into the water. Cross-ripples, related to the circulation of

the lake's water, made for a complex feature of great interest and beauty.

Behind the beach is a seven to eight metre high dune, or lunette, containing material either blown out of the lake bed during the theorized dry period, or swept up from the beach. The dune has a steep face on the lake side which indicates that it was gradually extending eastwards. Still further east, behind the

logged to support trees, the plains were mainly covered with a sedge vegetation dominated by button grass. As in similar parts of South-west Tasmania, trees and shrubs grew only in better drained conditions along the banks of the rivers and creeks. There was also a forested area of tangled tea-tree, melaleuca and eucalypts growing on the slopes of the dunes.



dunes, is a series of swampy lagoons known collectively as Lake Maria. Each has a minilunette at its eastern end.

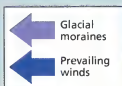
A barely perceptible rise separates the head of the Serpentine catchment east of Lake Pedder from the Huon River Plains. Not far from where the Huon was dammed by the Scotts Peak Dam is another lake—the small, shallow Lake Edgar whose creation was associated with downward movement on the Lake Edgar Fault.

This area of Tasmania is one of the wettest parts of Australia and the broad valleys of the Huon and Serpentine were blanketed with peat. Being too water-

In many ways the land-forms of the Huon-Serpentine Plains and their relationship to the Franklands are similar to those of the Arthur Plains and the Western Arthur Range further south. They have the same fluvio-glacial land-forms and vegetation. But it was the existence of additional land-forms—the lakes and their dunes—which made the Serpentine valley exceptional. In it was contained the full suite of features associated with the ice-age glaciation.

Nor was the distinctiveness just a matter of the area's land-forms. Specially adapted to the shallow water and the sandy lake bed were a number of plants

Formation of Lake Pedder



and animals. In the early 1970s, 18 aquatic species were thought to be endemic to Lake Pedder. They included a shrimp-like syncarid crustacea (*Allanaspides helonemus*), two galaxiid freshwater fish (*Galaxias pedderensis* and *Galaxias parvus*), a snail, three species of caddis fly and the Lake Pedder earthworm (*Perionychia pedderensis*).

The water in the lake was very acidic and low in bicarbonate and as a result there was little phytoplankton. Most food for life in Lake Pedder came from the break-up of plant debris washed in by streams.

The story of how Lake Pedder came to be flooded can be found in books such as Les Southwell's *The Mountains of Paradise* and Bob Brown's *Lake Pedder*.

The approach used by the Tasmanian Government for its Middle Gordon Power Scheme was to sacrifice Lake Pedder by drowning it beneath a huge impoundment the purpose of which was to divert water from the Serpentine and Huon Rivers into the main storage reservoir—Lake Gordon. Without the Huon diversion, which contributed only 10 per cent of the power-station water, this would not have been necessary. When the scheme went for parliamentary approval in 1967 the public had little or no information about alternatives. The power was said to be urgently needed and, it was argued, should be produced for the least possible cost. Unfortunately, when in 1973 the Federal Government adopted the recommendation of the Lake Pedder Committee of Enquiry (LPCE) for a moratorium on the flooding, to be followed by the Commonwealth paying for modifications of the scheme, it still left the decision to the Tasmanian Government, which promptly rejected the moratorium offer. The Commonwealth Government had doubts about its constitutional power to intervene, and thus did not introduce overriding legislation.

It was the drowning of Lake Pedder—clearly a national asset—which more than any other factor spurred the Commonwealth Government to develop a role in environmental protection. Any lingering doubts were ended with the events which followed Australia's involvement with the World Heritage Convention.

The second fight to save Lake Pedder ended in early 1974 when it was conceded that the defence of the Southern Forests and opposition to the plans to build another dam on the Gordon had a higher priority. At the very time when the campaign was abandoned Australia signed the World Heritage Convention, which came into force in 1975. The LPCE had identified Lake Pedder as an area of international conservation significance.

In 1980 the Lowe Government, as part of an attempt to stop the building of the Gordon-below-Franklin dam, proposed

the nomination of the by then greatly expanded National Parks of western Tasmania for the World Heritage List. The area was inscribed on the list in 1982 paving the way for federal intervention to stop the dam, a decision upheld by the High Court in July 1983. In 1987 the Federal Government also halted logging in the Southern Forests and the Lemothyne and, in 1989, with the Stage 2 World Heritage nomination accepted, the 'Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area' covered 1.38 million hectares. The site had satisfied a world record of seven out of the ten possible World Heritage criteria.

Two decisions related to these events are important for the Lake Pedder restoration campaign. The first was the inclusion in the 1982 World Heritage Area of the Huon-Serpentine impoundment, but not Lake Gordon. The second was the decision of 1989 not to admit Lake Gordon as part of the Stage 2 addition on the grounds that it was unlikely to be restored, whereas there was a possibility that Lake Pedder would be.

The restoration campaign got off to a false start in early 1990 when the proposition was inadvertently aired as part of the federal election campaign for the seat of Denison. The reaction of the Tasmanian Government showed that much more careful preparation, and a national campaign, would be essential. Thus in mid-1992 the Lake Pedder Study Group was formed with three members each from Tasmania and Victoria. The task of the group was to gather facts relevant to restoration and plan the campaign. The studies covered a number of aspects including the condition of the drowned landscape, the prospects for restoration of the plants and animals, and

the energy and engineering aspects of the unflooding.

From mid-1972 on, Pedder could only be saved if the water already impounded was released through the Scotts Peak and Serpentine Dams. Addressing the matter of damage to the drowned lake the LPCE expressed the opinion that:

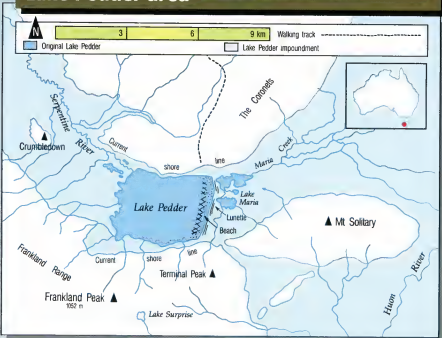
...if Lake Pedder were to be re-exposed its beauty would return irrespective of the length of time the Lake had been flooded...

Pedder has been flooded for over 20 years. What impact has there been? A geophysical survey has been carried out for the study group by a team led by Professor Peter Tyler of Deakin University and the detailed results are to be published in the scientific literature. Overall, however, the findings of the survey have been extremely encouraging.

Beneath the murky waters of the Huon-Serpentine impoundment the land-forms of Lake Pedder and the surrounding area have been little affected by either siltation or erosion. The dunes are still intact (the trees on them creating a boating hazard) as are Lake Maria, the Maria Creek channel into Lake Pedder and the Serpentine outlet. The megaripples on the beach have survived. The sediment layer has barely affected the Pedder Pennies (ferromanganese concretions) which lie on parts of the lake bed. On the plains decomposition of the vegetation is incomplete, the soil still bound by roots.

The only erosion damage has been in the rise and fall zone on the reservoir edge, where wave action has created a major scar. Had the impoundment not filled rapidly, wave and wind action would have severely damaged the dunes

Lake Pedder area



and this could happen again if the unflooding of the lake is not handled carefully.

Studies of the conservation status of the Lake Pedder biota have been made by both Professor Tyler and Dr Sam Lake. In the years which have elapsed since the frantic surveys of the 1960s and 1970s all the plants thought to have been endemic to Lake Pedder have been located elsewhere in the South-west so that they can be relocated where necessary in the restored lake.

The position regarding the supposedly endemic fauna is more complicated. Of those still considered to be endemic to Lake Pedder some, such as the Lake Pedder earthworm, have survived in the impoundment; others have not. Some other animals have now, like the plants, been found elsewhere in the South-west. Specimens of the endangered Pedder Galaxias have been placed in a lake in the Western Arthurs as a conservation measure and these can be returned to Pedder when conditions are right. The end result will be the restoration of much, but not all, of the characteristic aquatic fauna. An essential part of the reintroduction will be the removal of the introduced trout—a difficult task in itself.

Away from Lake Pedder the main rehabilitation tasks will probably be along the impoundment shore line. Nature alone would take many years to heal this eroded area. Experience elsewhere suggests that the button grass will return without much help but this may take several decades.

The study group's report on the engineering aspects of the proposed restoration was prepared by civil engineering consultant Douglas Hill, who was a member of the LPCE in the early 1970s.

The water from the Huon and Serpentine Rivers contributes about 40 per cent of the output from the Gordon power scheme. According to Energy Minister Robin Gray, the total contribution of the Gordon power-station equals 13 per cent of Tasmania's total power supply so that the Huon-Serpentine impoundment contribution is just over 5 per cent. If only the Huon diversion were eliminated, the loss would be 1.3 per cent plus pumping energy for a Serpentine-only diversion.

There are possible developments on both the energy-demand and energy-supply side which relate to the future of Lake Pedder although the case for restoration is not dependent on any of them. If the Comalco aluminium smelter were to close down, as is possible, there would be a demand reduction of 240 megawatts—far greater than the contribution of the Huon and Serpentine water to the power supply. Similarly, interconnection of the electricity grid with the mainland would allow the import of thermal energy. There is also

the possibility of reducing demand through energy conservation.

The reaction of the Tasmanian Government and the Hydro-Electric Commission (HEC) to the IUCN resolution was muted compared with 1990 but again the difficulties were exaggerated. In a rejection statement, Robin Gray said that draining the lake was simply not an option on either financial or environmental grounds. The HEC chief executive Graeme Longbottom said that

The odour from rotting vegetation might be offensive for a time.

Fortunately, the management arrangements for the World Heritage Area which involve both the Commonwealth and the State, and in particular the device of the management plan, provide the means by which all these questions can be dealt with and the public consulted on these and other longer-term matters (such as the future of the Scotts Peak Dam and Scotts Peak Road). The Commonwealth



Kamarooka campsite, nestled in the Maria Creek dunes. This 1972 photograph, incidentally, is as good a time capsule of bushwalking in the early 1970s as we have seen. *Southwell*

revegetation would have wide-ranging implications. In 1990 the HEC said that the area would be a large, smelly mud pool and that '...the original Lake Pedder beach would most likely be gone'. In 1990 it estimated the cost of revegetation at \$20 million. Longbottom also said that replacing the lost power capacity with a similar scheme would cost \$100 to \$150 million.

The proposed restoration of Lake Pedder raises a number of issues relating to how the area would be managed as part of the World Heritage Area. Before flooding, the area was a part of the western Tasmanian wilderness. At present the Frankland Range on the west shore of the impoundment is zoned 'wilderness' in the 1992 Plan of Management for the World Heritage Area whereas the Sentinel Range on the opposite side is part of the 'recreation' zone. Where will the boundary between them be located after the lake and the plains have been reclaimed? From 1946 to 1972 light aircraft landed on the Pedder beach as an alternative means of access to walking. Should the lake continue to be accessible by aircraft? The future of camping in the area will need to be considered especially as there is likely to be a long rehabilitation period during which the difficult tasks of revegetating the dunes and other areas is undertaken.

has already provided Tasmania with very large sums of money as compensation and for management, establishing a firm precedent for the costs to be borne by all Australians even though eventually the most direct beneficiaries will be Tasmanians through their tourist industry.

The Tasmanian World Heritage Area is one of the world's finest and the Commonwealth's powers to meet the costs are tried and tested. So the future of Lake Pedder should now depend only upon our view of the worth of its restored natural environment. If Tasmania is prepared to base its future to a greater extent on its unique natural endowments, the loss of a little power will be seen in a different light.

In the present campaign the generation which lost the struggle to save the lake—but never gave up the idea of its rescue—joins with a younger generation who can make all the difference to the prospects of success for this audacious project. In the end they, and others, will be able to have the unforgettable experience of walking out on to a broad beach, knowing that not only had nature won the day at Lake Pedder but that its restoration had provided the most dramatic demonstration ever of the importance of the natural world in the life of the planet and its people. ■

Geoff Mosley was co-founder of the Canberra Bushwalking Club and its first honorary life member, but is better known for his role as a conservation leader. He was Director of the Australian Conservation Foundation from 1973 to 1986.

AVOCET



ALTITUDE/TIME FUNCTION

Displays altitude, temperature and time. Options include date, alarm, maximum altitude and countdown timer.



ALPINE FUNCTION

Records daily climb and vertical rate of ascent. Ascent measured in feet or metres. Options include total ascent, maximum and average vertical rate of ascent.



WEATHER FUNCTION

Displays sea-level barometric pressure, temperature, and barometric trend. Adjustable for atmospheric change.



TIMING FUNCTION

Stopwatch records split times, split/lap numbers, and lap times. Options include split/lap groups recalled from memory.



THE HIKER'S DREAM

The VERTECH ALPIN™ measures vertical metres climbed or descended.

Your progress toward the summit is measured in vertical metres climbed. And the revolutionary VERTECH ALPIN is the only wrist instrument that's capable of quantifying each ascent.

The VERTECH ALPIN is designed, engineered and manufactured by Avocet in Silicon Valley, California. It incorporates state-of-the-art aircraft altimeter technology that measures altitude to 14 000 metres.

And with Avocet's patented system, vertical metres climbed or descended are accumulated throughout the day, week and year. Additionally, the VERTECH ALPIN measures current, maximum and average vertical rate of climb or descent.

The instrument also features a weather-station that displays barometric pressure, barometric trend and temperature. The ALPIN's chronometer options include time, date and alarm—plus split/lap memory and countdown timer.

So next time you're wilderness bound forget the watch and heavy altimeter. Avocet's VERTECH ALPIN will size up every mountain and document your accomplishments.

\$295

from technology-competent outdoor adventure shops. For your nearest stockist in NSW phone (02) 580 7111; in Qld (07) 831 7672 and for all other States phone (03) 489 9766.

Australian Distributors: MACSON TRADING COMPANY PTY LTD
Ph (03) 489 9766; fax (03) 481 5368



CAPITAL WALKING

Bushwalking in the Canberra region, with *Martin Chalk*

Few who live and work in Canberra realize the significance of the mountainous southern half of the Australian Capital Territory. Not so the nation's early planners, for they recognized this region's capacity to supply the new capital with high-quality drinking-water. But it is not just this area's water that is of high quality: for those who enjoy the rucksack sports so, too, are the challenges on offer in this spectacular region. The Aborigines called it Namadgi, and that is the name of the National Park.

Namadgi National Park covers some 100 000 hectares and contains extensive grassland, particularly around the old grazing properties of Gudgenby and Orrorral. Wet and dry sclerophyll forest predominates in the central ranges of the park, while the sub-alpine western regions along the Brindabella and Bimberi Ranges boast one of Australia's higher mountains, Bimberi Peak (1911 metres). To the south and west the park is bordered by the Kosciusko National Park and by the Scabby Range and Bimberi Nature Reserves of New South Wales.

The two-day walk described below is in the central region of Namadgi known as the Bimberi Wilderness.

When to visit

Spring and autumn provide the most comfortable weather conditions for walking in this region. However, spring weather can be temperamental—I can vouch for snow in November. Cold changes, rain and snow are regular features of winter—although a clear day will provide magnificent views—while summer can bring high temperatures and fire hazards. Occasionally the park is closed due to the fire risk.

Maps

The best maps to this area are the NSW Central Mapping Authority 1:25 000 issues *Corin Dam* (8626-I-N) and *Rendezvous Creek* (8626-I-S). Both maps should be carried on this walk although neither shows any foot tracks.

Access

Namadgi National Park can be reached from Canberra by a sealed road through the hamlet of Tharwa. Once in Tharwa, follow the Boboyan road south towards Adaminaby. (Be warned that there are no services between Tharwa and Adaminaby—don't run out of petrol!)

The road now follows a broad valley to the farming region of Naas. Continue past Naas over Fitz Hill until the junction with the Orrorral road is reached some 50 kilometres south of Canberra.

The Orrorral road was built in the 1960s to support the NASA space tracking station of Orrorral. Although the tracking station is now gone, this sealed road provides valuable access to Namadgi by way of the Orrorral valley. Proceed along the road to a locked gate (colloquially known as the Orrorral Gate). The gate is adjacent to a small car-park from which



The observatory-like profile of the main boulder at Cotter Rocks. *John Worthy*

the foundations of the tracking station can be seen to the north-east.

Alternatively, the Orrorral road can be reached from the south by way of Adaminaby and Shannons Flat. Most of the Boboyan road in this direction is unsealed. However, those who plan to approach the region from the south might find this a better option than driving into Canberra first.

Permits

No camping permit is required for the walk described here. But the Canberra water-supply catchment area around the Cotter River is managed and permits are required for this area. For further information, contact Namadgi National Park by telephoning (06) 237 5222.

Fire permits are required for all open fires, but not for fuel stoves. Permits can be obtained from the ACT Bush Fire Brigade; phone (06) 207 8603.

If you plan to camp in an area where a camping permit is needed, the permit number will have to be quoted to the Bush Fire Brigade to obtain a fire permit.

The walk

The walk starts on a fire track, access to which is gained at a stile at the Orrorral Gate car-park. The fire track parallels the Orrorral valley and gradually climbs as it enters the dry forest which is typical of this cool locality. After a while the track climbs more steeply and moves away from the valley to the south-west. After an hour of steady walking, a clearing will be evident to the right set back off the track. Here is a rain-gauging station which resembles a large, grey milk-churn topped by a chimney. This conspicuous human artifact is

important not only to park managers but also to the walker—it indicates the approaching turn-off point.

A few metres beyond this, the track crosses Prairie Dog Creek and negotiates a small rise. The top of the rise is marked by a collection of granite boulders on the right, opposite which is the turn-off to Cotter Gap.

This foot track is less distinct but nevertheless quite obvious. Its orientation is roughly that of an old bridle-track used by the early settlers of the region. The track undulates through wet sclerophyll forest which can be a pleasure on dry, cool days—or somewhat miserable in the rain or in the heat of midsummer. The terrain is quite easy although the last 300 metres to the gap itself are guaranteed to bring warmth to the nether regions of the body.

The gap is a good spot in which to rest and have a snack before the climb to Cotter Rocks. (The Cotter Gap to which I refer is at 704562 on the *Rendezvous Creek* map; it is not the one marked on the map, which indicates the whole broad valley.) Cotter Gap is one of many frost hollows in Namadgi National Park. The combination of cool air draining off the surrounding hills at night and the high elevation causes close to zero or subzero overnight temperatures for a good part of the year. Consequently, young trees are denied the chance to grow—a grassy flat is the result. In addition, these hollows are usually the sources of creeks and abound with water-saturated sphagnum. This combination makes for good camping spots. However, one should bear in mind that sphagnum is quite delicate, and should not be trampled on.

After a rest, the hard work begins. Cotter Rocks (not named on the map) are immediately above the gap to the south-west. They

ARTIACH COMFORT MAT Sleep on it...



Photo: Glenn van der Kuyff

Artiach self-inflating camping mattresses guarantee you luxurious comfort, superb insulation and the best night's sleep you can have in the bush. The benefits of Artiach camping mattresses include: simple things like comfort, warmth and light weight. The less obvious features include:

- Self-inflating. The mattresses will unroll and inflate unassisted.
- Polyester skin which is robust and resistant to attack from acids and UV light.
- Polyurethane foam core is fully bonded to the outer shell to ensure durability and maximum comfort.
- Now wider (minimum width 50 cm). Gives you more room to move.
- Plastic valve is easy to open and close and is cold-weather safe.
- Loose packaging means better foam memory and faster inflation.
- Environmentally friendly. CFC-free manufacture.

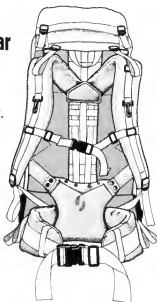
Model	Thickness	Length	Width	Weight
Regular Short	3.5 cm	120 cm	50 cm	0.70 kg
Regular Long	3.5 cm	185 cm	50 cm	1.06 kg
Deluxe Long	5.0 cm	190 cm	65 cm	1.70 kg

Distributed by **Outdoor Agencies**. Ph: (02) 517 1155 Fax: (02) 550 2969
Available from good outdoor stores

Get a load off **YOUR** Shoulders!

The **NEW** Outgear **AIRFLOW HARNESS**

is a revolutionary breakthrough in fatigue-free load-carrying comfort. This is achieved because Outgear produces the harness in three sizes, with interchangeable hip-belts and shoulder-straps. Outgear Airflow Series backpacks can be adjusted to fit anybody: male or female, tall or short, slender or wide.



The **NEW** Outgear **KAKADU**

continues the Outgear tradition of manufacturing functional and durable load-carrying systems. The new Kakadu is a highly weatherproof, large capacity, single-compartment backpack. You can rely on the Kakadu to carry your equipment on any wilderness adventure.



Call us on (03) 318 2496 for the location of your nearest Outgear stockist.

Outgear backpacks hip-load.

Outgear



DOWN TO EARTH PRODUCTS

BUSHWALK TASMANIA WITH TASAIR

FLYING WALKERS SINCE 1947



WILDERNESS AND NATIONAL PARK FLIGHTS

To or from:

Melaleuca or Cox Bight
Maria Island
• Moores Valley
Scotts Peak

Cradle Mountain

WE DROP YOUR
SUPPLIES

WE BOOK YOUR BUS
TRANSPORT

WE PICK UP FROM CITY
OR HOBART AIRPORT

WE STORE YOUR
BAGGAGE

WE SUPPLY YOUR
STOVE FUEL



Tasmania
Be Tempted

Base: Cambridge
Aerodrome, Hobart.

Postal Address: GPO Box
451E, Hobart 7001.

Ph: (002) 48 5088

Fax: (002) 48 5528

are quite obvious by the granite outcrops which top the hill. The trackless access rises 200 metres over a distance of 700 metres through tea-tree and eucalypt. By diverging to the left of the peak around 10' the worst of the rocks on the approach can be avoided. After about 30 to 40 minutes of climbing, the terrain levels out into a stand of snow gums and mountain gums which give way to alpine ash as you near Cotter Rocks.

Cotter Rocks themselves are not visible until you are reasonably close as some regrowth blocks the view. This collection of boulders provides hours of exploration, photography and solace. Of particular interest is a large, double-dog-leg fracture through the main boulder. Its sheer, vertical sides invoke a feeling of awe and supply rockclimbing opportunities and a time-check for the navigator's chronometer ('meridian passage' for the purists).

Keep an eye on the time, particularly in the winter months, as this place tends to engross those who explore it and you still need to find a camping spot. Allow 90 minutes before sunset to travel the two kilometres south-east to Rock Flats to make camp. The course is through snow gum and mountain gum forest with minimal obstruction by the understorey.

Rock Flats is another frost hollow with good camping available on the perimeter of the forest. In drier months running water can still be found at the north-western end of the flat where the creek empties towards Cotter Rocks. Rock Flats is a pristine area and camp fires are discouraged in favour of fuel stoves. Bear the altitude in mind and be prepared for a cool night and a slow start in the morning!

Day two

Two options are available for the return journey—one relatively easy; the second of the other type.

The easier option calls for an easterly course from Rock Flats, down the steep descent to Rendezvous Creek. The creek can then be followed on its western side where the remnants of an old bridle-track come and go. Be prepared for some scrub-bashing and stay

high on the creek's bank, as the creek itself winds through boulders and undergrowth. After some two hours a clearing will be reached (739511 on the *Rendezvous Creek* 1:25 000 map) which is the departure point for the Nursery Creek valley.

For the more adventurous, the aforementioned clearing can be reached along the short ridge which parallels Rendezvous Creek and runs off to the south-east of Rock Flats. After the 1406 metre feature, a spur gradually turns to the east and leads down to the clearing. An examination of the map suggests that this option would provide good views over the park and an easy way of avoiding the undergrowth so typical of creek valleys—as we found to our cost, nothing could be further from the truth!

The northern part of the ridge, up to the southern boundary of Rock Flats, has been burnt in recent times. Consequently, progress is hampered by fallen timber, scrub and regrowth in addition to jumbles of large boulders. There is only a limited view from the few rocks that can be climbed. Nevertheless, this region is a good training-ground for the navigator who wants to determine his or her position accurately under difficult circumstances.

I cannot vouch for the southern part of the ridge as the northern part defeated us after 90 minutes and only 1500 metres of travel. Complete with battered shins, cut arms and dented egos we dropped to Rendezvous Creek for a cool drink and a refreshing dip.

From the clearing on Rendezvous Creek head east to the obvious gap in the range of hills. The climb is steep but progress is helped by the foot pad which runs along the northern side of the small, unnamed creek that rises at the gap. As the gap is neared, the foot pad becomes a prominent track which can be followed down to Nursery Creek. It becomes rather vague around a clearing at the northern end of Nursery Creek, but is prominent once again at the gap to the north-east of the creek (765516 on the *Rendezvous Creek* map). This area is very popular with day walkers, so drinking untreated water from Nursery Creek is inadvisable.

Should time permit, a pleasant side-trip is available down a prepared track on the south-western side of Nursery Creek to Nursery Swamp. This area is a large peat-bog surrounded by low, forested hills, with tranquil, grassy sectors on its western side. Its popularity has a long history. The early settlers used it for lambing—hence its name. For centuries before that, the Aborigines used it for resting and tool making, probably during the summer bogong-moth hunts. These days, walkers of all ages enjoy the area's unusual combination of serenity and ruggedness.

Back to the main walk: from the gap north-east of Nursery Creek, follow the foot track down to the Orroral road. This well-trodden walking route includes a few steep descents but is easy to negotiate. Once on the road, all that remains is the four kilometre trudge back to the car-park. ■

Martin Chalk is an Air Force navigator who first admired the rugged parts of Australia's Great Dividing Range from the cockpit of an F-111 at a height of 500 feet and travelling at 480 knots. These days he takes things more slowly, walking and skiing in the high country.

Cotter Rocks area





IT'LL BE KEEPING YOU DRY LONG AFTER YOU'VE FORGOTTEN THE PRICE.

When you buy a Gore-Tex garment you are buying a commitment to excellence.

Over 16 years of sustained research, testing and development has maintained Gore-Tex as the performance leader in foul-weather clothing. And it's designed to keep on performing at that same high level.

At the heart of our fabrics is a tough yet light and supple membrane of expanded PTFE. It retains uncompromised function in temperatures well beyond the human survival range. Being virtually chemically inert, it is unaffected by any common chemicals - like insect repellents and cosmetics. Similarly salt-water, mould, mildew, UV light and other common performance reducing agents will have no effect. It doesn't 'wear-out' or become hard or brittle over time.

In fact, barring mechanical damage (cuts, abrasions, pin-holes) it will remain fully functional as long as the fabrics to which it is laminated remain serviceable.

In stark contrast to the situation with other waterproof fabrics there is nothing in the way of normal cleaning, washing or dry-cleaning that you

can do which will harm your Gore-Tex garment - in fact, a good wash after any regular use will serve only to extend its life.

More often than not, everything that doesn't affect Gore-Tex fabric will degrade competitive fabrics - to the point where they leak. Take one example: in temperatures below zero the coatings on coated fabrics become stiff and brittle and will crack and chip away from the flex and wear points on a garment.

Gore-Tex fabrics with their supple membrane are a minimum of 5 times more durable to cold and wet, flex and abrasion.

That's why we can make the unparalleled commitment that Gore-Tex outerwear is "Guaranteed to keep you dry". It will be keeping you dry long after you've forgotten the little extra you paid for it.

Advice and Service: Consult trained shop staff and our User's Guide when choosing a garment for your outdoor needs. For service phone W.L. Gore and Associates free on 008 226 703.



WATERPROOF • BREATHABLE • WINDPROOF • DURABLE • GUARANTEED

WATER FIT TO DRINK?

Roger Caffin makes some personal observations on water purification

There once was a time when bushwalkers and skiers could drink the water straight from any mountain stream with complete confidence. Today, the only confidence you can have is that doing so may make you sick. There are two major dangers lurking in some of our mountain watercourses: *Escherichia coli*, a bacterium which gives you dysentery and diarrhoea; and *Giardia lamblia*, a protozoan which causes intestinal problems. It is interesting that the latter is proving to be the bigger hazard to walkers and skiers in more developed Australian mountain areas. This article will outline the problems presented by contaminated water and what can be done about them.

Broadly speaking, we can divide the possible contaminants in water into four categories:

- Dissolved but harmless materials such as tannin and salt.
- Suspended matter such as dirt, sticks and granite dust ('floaties').
- Chemicals (for example, solvents and heavy metals).
- Bacteria, viruses, protozoa, nematodes and the like ('bugs').

This division is important because each category presents different problems and needs different treatment. Distinguishing between them is critical to deciding what we need to do with the water we want to drink.

Dissolved materials. This category is relatively harmless if you exclude 'chemicals', which are discussed below. Tannin, or tannic acid, is the stuff which makes the creeks in South-west Tasmania brown (and rots your boots and trousers). Add sugar and milk and you have a substitute for tea (so to speak)! Salt—as found in sea-water or brackish water—is just unpleasant to drink. As far as this article is concerned, they don't matter. Note that you can't mechanically filter these out of water unless you use osmotic filters and very high pressures, or ion-exchange filters.

Suspended matter. Most of us at one time or another have had small bits of stick and algae floating in our drinking-water. Provided it isn't toxic blue-green algae, suspended matter of this sort is of little concern in the high mountains and will also be skipped here. If you are worried about 'floaties', mechanically filtering with your handkerchief works reasonably well (although not with toxic blue-green algae).

Chemicals. This category covers solvents and heavy metals, which are generally found downstream from industrial 'developments'. They can make you very sick in the long term, but normally we wouldn't expect to meet them in the mountains. There are two exceptions to this: downstream from some old mines; and downstream from farming areas. In particular, I have found significant



'Don't drink it all!' (In Loons Cave, Ida Bay, Tasmania.) Andrew Briggs

cloudiness below some apple orchards in the Blue Mountains and would not like to guess what pesticides are in the water there. Mechanical filters (other than osmotic filters) don't work with chemicals although activated carbon filters might work to some degree. They should not necessarily be relied upon.

Bacteria, viruses and protozoa. This category is the focus of this article, and includes both the human *Escherichia coli*, a bacterium which comes from human faecal matter, and the *Giardia lamblia* parasite, which can come from both humans and animals. In general, this category comprises all viruses, bacteria and protozoa, including things like the polio virus, rotavirus, *Herpes simplex*, the cholera bacterium, various bacteria such as those that cause toxic shock, strep throat, scarlet fever, salmonella, legionnaires' disease, and *Cryptosporidium* protozoa. However, for walkers and skiers in Australia the biggest hazards are *E coli* and *G lamblia*, and the latter is, in my opinion, now the most significant. It doesn't matter how clear the water looks: these bugs are too small to see without a good microscope.

E coli: this is a bug (bacterium) which grows in your lower bowels and is relatively harmless as long as it stays there. Typically, its presence or absence is used by local councils and water authorities as a measure of water

quality (that is, whether sewage is getting into the drinking-water). If it gets into your stomach it causes diarrhoea and dysentery. It can only get there by going down your throat: either through drinking contaminated water or as a result of not washing your hands after going to the toilet. Some of our very popular rivers such as Cocks River at Breakfast Creek in New South Wales have a reputation for *E coli*, as many campers have had trouble there. My suspicion would focus on whether the relatively inexperienced campers at such locations ever washed their hands, especially after going to the toilet. On the other hand, anyone who drinks from the creeks below Leura in the Blue Mountains is making a serious mistake, and is likely to have a serious health problem very soon as well—the water here can certainly make you sick.

G lamblia: this is a single-celled organism that has a life cycle which largely takes place in the human gut (intestines). When you drink contaminated water the cyst gets into your upper intestine and hatches out into a flagellated protozoan or trophozoite: a little bug with wavy tentacles. (A microbiologist friend of mine says it looks like a 'mad face'.) This attaches itself to the walls of your intestines and feeds on your blood, causing irritation. The irritated intestine finds it hard to cope with some foods, especially milk and fats, and some of the food ferments *in situ*. You end up feeling bloated, you rumble loudly in public as this gas bubbles around, and you

MAKE SURE YOUR DRINKING WATER IS SAFE. MAKE SURE IT'S PÜR.

HOW THEY WORK TRITEK Purification System



Pump forces water through 2-step purification process:



1. 1-micron filter removes protozoa, including giardia.



2. Iodinated resin kills bacteria and viruses as they collide with resin beads.



RESULT: Microbiologically purified water.



Optional carbon cartridge for Explorer and Scout eliminates unpleasant tastes and odours.

**Purified water vs filtered water.
There is a difference.**

PÜR water purifiers eliminate all micro-organisms, including cysts, viruses and bacteria.
Filters remove cysts but do not remove viruses and may not remove all bacteria.



PÜR Traveler

Compact. Perfect for over-seas travel.
Weight: 340 gr
Output: One cup of water instantly
Cartridge capacity: 400 litres (approx)



PÜR Scout

Microbiologically pure water, at a very affordable price.
Weight: 340 gr
Output: up to 1000 ml per minute
Cartridge capacity: 750 litres (approx)



PÜR Explorer

The most advanced water purifier you can buy.
Weight: 590 gr
Output: up to 1500 ml per minute
Cartridge capacity: 2000 litres (approx)

Phone for a technical product catalogue—OUTDOOR AGENCIES. PH (02) 517 1155 FAX (02) 550 2969

BACK TO NATURE

Make sure your gear will weather the storm, surviving even the toughest trips in great shape. SIGG bottles are light but extremely resilient because they're made in one piece, and have a reliable, leak-proof seal.

SIGG 
The Traveller's Companion.



SIGG drinking bottles are absolutely watertight and hygienic, and feature an effective inner coating. 300 ml, 600 ml, 1 litre, 1.5 litre.

Nature's the toughest challenge of them all. But SIGG's unique fuel bottles have always performed brilliantly, even on legendary international expeditions.

Distributed by



ANSKO PTY LTD
Phone (03) 471 1500
Fax (03) 471 1600

make very bad smells. Further details are left to the imagination. Each trophozoite splits in two every 12 hours. This may not sound much, but a single trophozoite will turn into a million trophozoites after ten days in your intestine, and a billion after 15 days. Eventually they turn into cysts, egg-shaped things about ten micrometres (μm) wide, which pass out of your body. They can float around in water and that's where the problem of contamination starts.

While most people become painfully aware of the problem within a week of ingesting the cysts, it is not unknown for some people to carry the parasite for months or even longer before realizing that they have a problem. Unfortunately, the cure (typically a dose of Flagyl or metronidazole) is notoriously worse than the problem. Other treatments with lesser side-effects are available but are not always effective.

It is important to realize just how serious the problem is. If you are badly infected you could be passing out millions of cysts a day. You can also be infected and passing a small quantity of cysts for some time without showing the normal symptoms¹. The cysts can survive for a fortnight or more in cold water². On the other hand, it has been found that the minimum dose normally capable of infecting you is only about ten cysts³. Two conclusions can be drawn from this: an infected person creates a very serious problem for everyone else when he or she leaves faecal matter on the surface of the soil or in the snow; and it is extremely easy for you to get giardiasis. There has even been an Australian conference on it, and the proceedings⁴ make interesting reading for the technically minded.

Now for the real shock: I have been informed by several competent (professional) sources that the animal populations of both the Blue Mountains and the Snowy Mountains now carry the human *G lamblia* parasite. The native animals have caught it from us. This means that the cysts may be found in *any* water *anywhere* in those mountains, and probably in other mountain or bush regions as well. This pattern of infection is not new—the wild animals in many regions in the USA are known to become reinfected each spring as people move into those areas after winter. The Thredbo River and Whites River corridor in the Snowy Mountains—both areas heavily used by walkers and skiers—are notorious for the problem. It might be added, in defence of the animals, that the experience in the USA is that the infection in wild animals tends to die out over the winter (when there are few walkers) and to recur in the spring when the walkers all come back. Humans are the primary source of the problem.

So what is to be done to counter these threats to our enjoyment of the outdoors? The aim of any technique is to provide water which you can drink without getting sick. Looking at the condition of the mountains at present, this means dealing with *E coli* and *G lamblia*. There are three main ways of tackling these bugs: killing them by boiling; removing them by filtration; or inactivating (killing) them with chemicals. In practice, many of the commercial solutions involve a mix of the latter two methods. As mentioned, my experience is that *G lamblia* is the threat of most

concern, and it will be the focus of the rest of this article. But bear in mind that there may always be other problems in some places.

Boiling sounds attractive, and does work—provided you boil the water long enough. Some research literature states that simply bringing the water to the boil is sufficient to kill *E coli* and *G lamblia*. Other people with field experience have said that boiling for a full ten minutes is essential. At



The Atlantis Water Purifier from Questech. Below, the Katadyn Mini Filter.

high altitudes—this applies mainly to climbers and trekkers overseas—the boiling-point for water falls and you have to boil your water even longer. Since many of these regions are 'stoves only', fuel gets to be rather heavy. Boiling litres of water also takes a long time and this ceases to be a viable option for many people.

Filtration has an obvious appeal, but is actually very difficult. Bacteria are very small, and to filter them out of the water mechanically requires microfiltration, down to well under one μm absolute for *E coli*. ('Absolute' means that *nothing* larger than the quoted value gets through.) Viruses—which can be as small as $0.004 \mu\text{m}$ —require ultrafiltration which is practically impossible in the field. For *G lamblia* the filtration requirements are not as severe as the parasite is 'big'—about ten μm —but it pays to be cautious. Typically, a $0.1\text{--}0.2 \mu\text{m}$ filter is the best available for bushwalkers.

Because the filter holes need to be so small, a fair bit of pressure is required to force the water through them: this pressure requires work—by you. If you want a lot of filtered water and you have only a small unit, the time and effort may be significant. On the other hand, the resulting water does look very clean. In addition, using microfiltration for water which is not completely clear will mean having to clean the filter element frequently. This, in turn, will result in the filter life being shorter than expected. On the lower Naitai River, which is a bit cloudy, I had to clean one filter by scrubbing it every day to keep the force and flow at reasonable levels.

Filter cartridges need to be replaced regularly. Generally you need to replace

a mechanical filter cartridge when you can no longer restore its flow rate by cleaning or when you have abraded the surface significantly. Replacements cost money, but what is your health worth?

A significant problem with filtration is that the filtered water has no defence against subsequent contamination by unfiltered water. (This problem may be lessened when mechanical filtration is combined with the use of a chemical such as iodine—see below.) If you are messy and mix the two, even just a little bit, you could be ruining all your good efforts. Therefore great care is needed to make purely mechanical filtration reliable.

Many viruses are small enough ($0.1 \mu\text{m}$ to $0.004 \mu\text{m}$) to get through commonly available $0.2 \mu\text{m}$ filters. It has been suggested that viruses are often attached to something larger—something acting as a food supply perhaps—or may be actually inside a (larger) cellular organism, and are thus usually stopped by $0.2 \mu\text{m}$ filters. It would seem, however, that they *can* detach from their associated object and thus pass through a filter under some conditions. Therefore, trusting mechanical filtration alone to remove viruses may be unsafe.

Some filter units offer an optional activated-carbon postfilter which is intended to absorb some metals and chemicals (including iodine) and can improve the taste of the water. My experience of mountain streams suggests that postfiltration is usually unnecessary unless you are using a filter which incorporates an iodine treatment (see below). If I have any doubts about heavy metals, pesticides or the like (such as when downstream from a farm or a town), I get my water elsewhere.

Inactivation can be done by ultraviolet light or by chemicals. Ultraviolet treatment may be realistic for town water-supplies but not for bushwalkers. Chemicals commonly used to treat water include silver, chlorine and iodine. However, it is known that silver does not kill *G lamblia*, which means that commonly available tablets based on this chemical will give no protection against giardiasis. There is





Safe Drinking-water with Katadyn.

Pocket Filter for rucksack expeditions. Weight: 650 gr.
Mini Filter for travellers. Weight: 250 gr.

Has an individually quality-tested, ceramic, 0.2 micron, self-disinfecting, cleanable filter element.

Filters out bacteria and protozoa including giardia, cholera, typhoid, amoeba, etc. A chemical-free water purification method.

Micropur:
 Harmless taste-free alternative for water disinfection. Replaces the use of chlorine or iodine. Preserves drinking-water quality for up to six months.

Available at quality outdoor shops.



DISTRIBUTED BY SIRMETA PTY LTD
 29 Stewart Street, WOLLONGONG, NSW 2500
 Phone (042) 27 2473 Fax (042) 28 6638

Take the disease out of the water with Puritabs*



Reduce the threat of gastrointestinal upsets such as diarrhoea caused by water-borne disease...treat your drinking and cooking water with Puritabs, the effervescent water-purification tablet.

- Designed for water bottles, billycans, etc., Puritabs wipes out micro-organisms in water. One tablet purifies one litre of water in 10 minutes or two litres if left for 30 minutes.
- Virtually tasteless in water, they dissolve rapidly. Foods, beverages and concentrates prepared with such water are unchanged in flavour or appearance.
- Available in packs of 36 (3 strips of 12 tablets in foil) from leading retail pharmacies, camping and disposal stores and Scout Outdoor Centres.

For further information please contact:

DermaTech Laboratories Pty Ltd

Unit 20, 7 Packard Ave Castle Hill NSW 2154.

Telephone: (02) 899 3614 Facsimile: (02) 680 3274

*Registered Trade Mark

also a fair bit of doubt about the effectiveness of chlorine against *G. lamblia*, which means that tablets which are based upon the action of this chemical may be unreliable as a defence against this threat as well.

Inactivation of bugs through the use of iodine (in suitable form) works, and it is unlikely that just about any organism could develop a resistance to this. There has to be some concern as to the amount of iodine you take in, but in most cases the amount involved in sterilizing water for occasional short trips does not present a problem. Typically, health authorities authorize or even encourage the addition of iodine to such foods as bread and table salt because most of us do not get enough in our diet. It should be mentioned here, however, that medical warnings are given to pregnant women about monitoring their iodine intake: an excess may be harmful. Also, a few people may be allergic to an excess of iodine. (You would be wise to consult a suitably qualified doctor before using any chemical method for treating water.) The situation changes if you are going on longer or more frequent trips. There does not seem to be any real consensus about the use of iodine for a week or more, although the longer the trip the less desirable it might be. Of more concern to most people seems to be the residual and unpleasantly clinical taste often left by iodine treatment: after several weeks that might begin to pall!

When using iodine to kill bugs you have to pay some attention to the time between putting the iodine in the water and using the water. The inactivation process appears to involve the attachment of an iodine molecule (or several) to the outside of the bug or organism and then the migration of the iodine into the organism, after which the oxidizing strength of the iodine molecule causes it to damage the organic matter. As is the case with any chemical reaction, this takes time. Furthermore, a drop in temperature of 10°C slows any chemical reaction rate by half. Thus, if it takes five minutes for the iodine to be effective in water at 25°C, it will take 20 minutes at 5°C and in water fresh off a snow bank (at about 0°C) it will take 30 minutes. As a result, when using iodine it is wise to use two water-bottles: 'drink now' (treated some time ago) and 'drink later' (just treated). When using filters which include an iodine resin to supplement the mechanical filtration process, there may be negligible delay between treatment and drinking. It seems that in these cases the iodine stays attached to the bugs—this has been tested in laboratory trials—and continues killing them as they slide down your throat! The water will also warm up inside you, causing the iodine reaction to accelerate.

The accompanying product survey is intended to present a reasonably thorough, subjective overview of the types of water-treatment products available for use with rucksack sports. My opinions are my own: feel free to disagree, but please take the risk of water-contamination seriously. If in doubt, ask your friends whether they have had giardiasis.

My wife and I carry our own water from our own rain-water tank on day trips and drink only that. We carry a bottle of the (ultra-light-

weight) iodine pills in my pack at all times, and sometimes rely on them. We would not rely on any of the chlorine-based or silver-based treatments.

I would be reluctant to recommend any one purifier in particular: each has its merits and its problems. However, for someone who cannot justify the relatively high cost (or weight) of a mechanical device, I would recommend iodine tablets.



The Scout water purifier from Pür.

One serious problem shared by all the mechanical units is that of freezing. During winter ski touring the water in the inlet and outlet tubes and valves can freeze—in as little as ten minutes as I discovered on one cold night!

If I were going overseas on a long trip I would certainly take a filter of some sort. If I had to provide water for a large group of people I would either carry one of the larger models not mentioned here or get someone else to do the pumping!

The following comments are generally the opinions of the authors: I am sure the various vendors may disagree. The major exception to this are the lifetimes quoted for filters: these are manufacturers' figures. Prices quoted are roughly the retail prices as of the middle of 1994.

Filters

Katadyn, Switzerland

There are two models of interest to walkers in the Katadyn range: the Pocket Filter and the Mini Filter. Both use a patented 0.2 µm ceramic filter impregnated with silver and developed more than 50 years ago. The Pocket Filter sells for around \$420, weighs approximately 650 grams and lasts for up to 50 000 litres of water. The Mini Filter sells for around \$220 and weighs about 250 grams and has a maximum filter life of 7000 litres. The ceramic filter in each unit can be replaced at the end of its life, which will be shortened if it is continually called upon to treat murky or dirty water. The filter in the Pocket Filter is about twice the size of the one in the Mini Filter. Each also has a coarse wire mesh prefilter on the inlet tube. The silver is present to prevent any bacterial growth in the ceramic: it is not effective

against protozoa such as *G. lamblia*. The filter is, however, definitely fine enough to stop both *G. lamblia* and *E. coli*, and the silver will also inhibit the *E. coli* from multiplying. To use this unit is very simple: basically, you pump water through the ceramic filter into your water-bottle.

The ceramic filter can clog up fairly easily in the field, as might be expected for such a fine filter. However, cleaning brushes come with both units and are fairly easy to use. The brush actually abrades the surface of the ceramic, so the unit's lifetime will depend on how much dirt is in the water you put through it. If it wasn't too dirty, I found that I could temporarily clean the ceramic by brushing it down with some toilet-paper. This would last for one or two cycles before I needed to scrub it with the brush. Despite some suggestions I have read, cleaning does not risk contamination of the output side of the filter: it is sealed. However, do be very careful when cleaning any filter: that's where all the *G. lamblia* bugs have collected! You will be getting them, concentrated, on your hands. Careful washing afterwards is essential. I found that scrubbing the ceramic while my wife poured river water over the lot was very effective. The last rinse was done with filtered water, after which I pumped a cupful through the filter on to the ground to flush the insides.

I used a Pocket Filter on several trips, and found that it requires a fair amount of force when pumping. It is also rather slow—about two minutes a litre if you take it reasonably. I was almost able to get up to the quoted one minute a litre when it was very clean, but that was tiring: not the best thing for the end of a hard day.

The Mini Filter also requires a fair bit of force to use. Being roughly half the size, it works about half as fast as the Pocket Filter. The pump is entirely plastic—rather than metal as in the Pocket Filter unit—and I was a bit concerned that under rough field use I might break it. As a result I did not take it on any trips. It would be quite strong enough for tourist/hotel use, for which it is really intended.

Both units have a very short output nozzle, which makes them awkward to use. The purpose of the short nozzle is to provide an absolute minimum area on which any contamination could grow. Despite the warnings, I stuck a short bit of silicone tubing on the output nozzle and into my water-bottle when in use, and carefully took it off straight afterwards. This made the unit much easier to use. I also flushed the whole unit with a couple of strokes each time. This modification was entirely at my own risk.

Packing the Pocket Filter away involved winding the inlet tube round the body of the filter and putting it in the supplied cover. I had to be particularly careful that the inlet filter didn't drip into the outlet spout when doing so. In practice, I always flushed the unit with a few strokes before starting to collect filtered water.

Waterworks, MSR, USA

The Waterworks weighs around 540 grams and comes with either a ceramic cartridge (about \$260) or a carbon cartridge (about \$230). The difference is that the ceramic cartridge will survive more cleanings than the carbon one, filtering about 300 litres of clean water (as opposed to 100 litres for the carbon cartridge). It does, however, filter about one-third more slowly. There is also a final 0.1 µm absolute membrane filter. I am told that everyone seems to be going for the newer ceramic element as it lasts longer, protects the membrane filter better, and is easier to clean. Replacement costs are approximately \$50 for the carbon cartridge, \$65 for the ceramic cartridge, and \$80 for the membrane filter. Fortunately, the membrane filter lasts for several ceramic cartridge lifetimes. The purification process is straight microfiltration like the Katadyn Pocket Filter. It contains no iodine, but has three levels of filtration: inlet sponge, ceramic, and membrane.

The body of the filter has a lever which protrudes from the side and drives a small piston. The force required to pump this filter is therefore fairly small but the volume pumped with each stroke is also much smaller. The reason for this is the 0.1 µm filter, which is even finer than the Pocket Filter and

AccuFilter

WATER FILTRATION and PURIFICATION
Drink Safe Water Anywhere!



THE STRAW



BOTTLE



CANTEEN

NUWLICK
CANDLES

LIGHTING, HEATING and COOKING



AVAILABLE AT ALL GOOD
OUTDOOR AND CAMPING STORES

AUSTRALIAN DISTRIBUTORS

JOHN STAR PTY LTD

PO BOX 333, MASCOT, NSW 2020.

PH (02) 669 1066, FAX (02) 669 3372.

D.B. Stuff

Made in Australia

CANYONING SUIT

In conjunction with a leading wet-suit manufacturer, we have designed a technical suit for active outdoor water-sports people who insist on stretching the summer season.

- 3 mm quality neoprene
- all seams glued and stitched
- ¾-length legs
- elbow-length arms
- double-layer padded seat, knees and thighs (for abseiling)
- articulated knees
- men's and women's sizes
- designed for maximum freedom of movement
- repair service available
- 12-month warranty on workmanship



For your nearest stockist or
trade enquiries, phone (02) 457 9798

Holidays in

India Sikkim Bhutan Nepal

with people who speak the
language and know the culture.

The Trekking Company

11 Lonsdale St. • Braddon • ACT 2601



Ph: (06) 257 6494

Fax: (06) 257 2963

Travel Agents Lic: No. 225/D/1

RAFT THE FRANKLIN RIVER



5-, 7- & 11-DAY TRIPS
December 1994 to March 1995
Also day trips available

RAFTING TASMANIA

For bookings or enquiries, please contact:
63 Channel Highway, Taroom, Tasmania 7053
Phone/Fax (002) 27 9516

FAREWELL GIARDIA, SO LONG DELHI BELLY!

Question: What's small, weighs only 100 grams, fits into your pocket and is an absolute boon to bushwalkers, backpackers, campers and travellers?

Answer: The Atlantis Water Purifier! Designed in the USA using technology developed for NASA, this brilliant little invention is a hand-held, flow-through cup with a patented purifier system that has been clinically proven instantly to kill the majority of protozoa, viruses and bacteria (including *Giardia lamblia*) found in water.

Up to 3700 litres of water can be rendered microbiologically pure for drinking. The RRP of \$69.95 (including bonus filter) is peanuts compared to the cost and misery of treating giardia, Delhi belly and other water-borne sicknesses.

Available from
Tanco Australia
Pty Ltd
ACN 053 478 658
89 Fowler Rd,
Illawong, NSW 2232.
Phone (02) 541 0704,
fax (02) 543 1741,
mobile 018 608 553.
We accept Bankcard,
Mastercard and Visa.



Walk the Desert Ranges

The Larapinta Trail is a staged 220 km walking track being developed through Central Australia's spectacular West MacDonnell Ranges.

Stages 1, 2, 3 & 8 are now open, offering an exhilarating 78 km of tracks through this ancient and fascinating landscape.



For more information
contact the N.T.
Conservation Commission,
PO Box 1046,
ALICE SPRINGS N.T. 0871.
Ph (089) 51 8211.

therefore requires higher pressure. The filter is, however, fairly easy to hold—even easier than the Pür Scout. (see below).

The filter has an inlet hose which incorporates the primary foam filter and a little float. The float keeps the inlet off the bottom of the creek or water-bucket, and out of any silt. This is a very smart move: silt will quickly clog the filter and usually contains any bugs that are around at concentrations thousands of times higher than in the water. The unit comes with a long outlet hose, or the bottom of the filter can be screwed to an MSR Dromedary water-bag.

I used a Waterworks with a ceramic cartridge for five days and found it very easy to use, albeit a bit slower than the Pocket Filter. It's no use pumping faster: there is an internal overpressure release valve! Opening it up and cleaning it turned out to be very easy: you just unscrew it and lightly scrub the ceramic cartridge with the (supplied) Scotchbrite pad. Don't try to clean the membrane filter: that's a bit more delicate.

Purifiers

Bottle 5-Stage, AccuFilter International, USA

This comes in two forms, each selling for roughly \$60: the first is in the form of a one litre bottle just like a racing cyclist's bottle; and the second looks like a (US military) plastic canteen. Contained within the filter insert inside the bottle are five stages of filtration: physical, penta-iodine (I₂) resin, physical, carbon, and physical. The resin appears to be the same as used in the Questech units (see below). The filter in the bottle lasts for about 150 litres, and is replaceable for around \$44. The whole thing comes with the filter in a separate bubble bag: you uncap the filter and stick it into the cap inside the bottle. The weight of the bottle is probably less than that of your current water-bottle: a significant factor for many.

A word of warning is appropriate here: a Bottle 3-Stage is also available (at a lower price), but the 3-Stage products do not have the iodine resin and will not kill any bugs at all!

Testing this filter was an interesting experience. By pulling the nozzle up you can suck from the bottle quite easily (there is no micron-level microfiltration stage). Alternatively, you can try to squeeze the upright bottle and get water into a cup: it's no use tipping it upside down as that puts air at the filter entrance at the bottom of the bottle! It is important to note that the unit is meant for use as a drink-bottle only: for cooking the company recommends the use of its iodine tablets (see below). Fortunately, the nozzle can be closed (pushed down) so that you can put the bottle into your pack, but I am not sure what pressure the whole thing would take! Not much, I suspect, although it didn't leak when I squeezed it to fill a cup.

After getting some carbon dust in the first half-litre of water (as anticipated in the instructions) the water came out clear and fairly taste-free—at least in the early stages. When the water starts to taste strongly of iodine the carbon filter has become saturated and it's time to get a new insert. It would be useful to keep track of how many litres you had pushed through it.

It was interesting to compare this filter with the Atlantis cup (see below): both use the same resin and carbon, but the AccuFilter bottle has much better flow, albeit with a significantly shorter filter life. I was told that the absence of a proper µm-level filter may be remedied fairly soon.

Despite being unusual, this approach seems like a cheap and effective solution. The obvious question is this: if you are carrying tablets to purify your cooking-water (as recommended by the manufacturer), why not use them for your drinking-water as well? The answer would seem to be that the bottle appears to give a cleaner taste while still providing a very effective treatment. Whether that justifies the cost difference is another matter.

Filter straws, AccuFilter International, USA

This is a fat straw containing a physical prefilter, an iodine resin filter and a carbon postfilter and is used exactly like a normal drinking straw. Obviously it is of little use in filling your belly (unless no one is watching). We did not test the AccuFilter Straws, but by analogy with the AccuFilter Bottle they would probably work moderately well (unless you had hiccup).

Pür, USA

There are three units in this range: at a weight of roughly 340 grams and costing about \$150, the middle one (Scout) would be most appropriate for walkers. This unit has a foam plastic prefilter, a one µm mechanical filter and a tri-iodine (I₃—Tri-iodide) resin filter. The tri-iodine cartridge lasts for about 750 litres of clean water. There is an optional carbon postfilter. Very conveniently, the Scout has both a long inlet tube and a reasonable outlet tube, with a little nozzle on the end which hooks on to your water-bottle or belly. As with the MSR Waterworks, the unit's inlet hose incorporates a float. Note that this unit is effective against all viruses as well. I found the Scout quite easy and fast to pump, although the way the inlet and outlet tubes come from the bottom of the unit prevents you from putting the base on the ground. On the other hand, provided I cleaned it every few days, I could hold it in both hands fairly easily, so that didn't really matter.

Cleaning the Scout requires you to open it up and brush the filter surface, in the same way as with the Katadyn Pocket Filter. The manufacturer recommends using a soft toothbrush (but not the one you use on your teeth). Be warned though: too much force on the soft, plastic filter and you can abrade the surface and eventually you will make a hole straight through. I found that very light brushing with some toilet-paper was generally quite sufficient, especially if done every day after use. The disassembly and reassembly after cleaning required just a fraction more care than with the Pocket Filter. Once you have done it a couple of times, there is no problem as long as you don't lose the critical 'O'-ring (which caution is clearly mentioned in the instructions).

You need to run about ten litres of water through the filter at the start to get rid of any excess iodine or carbon dust, something about which the manual is quite explicit.

Packing the Scout away requires either some care not to squash the tubes coming off the fittings at the end, or removing the tubes each time and replacing the caps. The latter seems reasonable, but it would be essential to make sure that you don't let the inlet tube contaminate the outlet tube: I packed the two tubes in separate plastic bags. The filtered water does contain a very small amount of residual iodine but I certainly wouldn't rely on that to get rid of any contamination. You also have to make absolutely sure that you put the tubes back on the right way around the next time you use the filter.

Atlantis Water Purifier, Questech, USA

This unit has no mechanical filter, just a penta-iodine resin filter at the bottom of a cup, an (optional) carbon postfilter under it and some other chemicals for taste. It costs about \$69 including the carbon post-filter and weighs around 100 grams. It is very simple to use: you just sit it on your water-bottle and pour water through it—no pumping at all. The developers claim that the penta-iodine resin is significantly more potent than the tri-iodine resin, while releasing very little free iodine into the water³. (Mind you, if the water is full of bugs there will be some iodine attached to them, and they don't get filtered out with this unit.)

The major problem with this unit is the speed of filtration. The iodine filter by itself is a bit slow as it is not pressurized, but adding the carbon postfilter halves the flow rate again. From experience I think that the carbon postfilter is essential, otherwise there is a strong iodine taste. We tried it without the carbon filter—once only! With the carbon postfilter attached

it filters at about the same speed as the MSR Waterworks, or perhaps a bit more slowly. The problem is that to get this speed you have to keep pouring water into the top cup without allowing any to overflow past the filter and into your bottle (which ruins everything). The concentration required to do this at the end of a hard day is a bit much. My hope would be that one day Questech will come out with



The MSR Waterworks water filter.

a small pump version of this filter, with maybe a two-five µm mechanical prefilter to remove larger organic matter and with a slightly larger carbon filter.

Tablets and drops

Iodine tablets, AccuFilter International, USA and Coghlan's, Canada

As far as I can see, both the Coghlan's tablets and the Potable Aqua tablets by AccuFilter are the same: they appear to be the same chemical, size, weight and colour, and come in identical bottles (except for the paper labels).

These tablets each contain about 20 milligrams of tetraglycine hydroperoxide, which is an iodine-release agent. There are 50 in a bottle which sells for less than \$10. According to the directions, they are recommended for 'emergency disinfection' and not for continuous use. The recommended dose is one tablet for a litre of water, and wait ten minutes unless the water is very cold (in which case wait 20 minutes). The Potable Aqua instructions suggest two tablets a litre if the water is very cold or if *G lamblia* is known to be present. Obviously, one tablet leaves some iodine in the water and this does leave a very

WARNING

Material on health/fitness published in *Wild* is intended as a first source of information only. The use of this material without appropriate professional advice could result in serious personal harm. It is the reader's responsibility to ensure that it is put into practice only after personal consultation with an appropriately qualified and experienced professional. Printed information is no substitute for proper advice, experience, skill, regard for safety, and equipment.

GRIGRI

The GRIGRI is a device for belaying the leader or second. It contains an integral security system which locks onto the climbers's rope when it is pulled sharply and forcefully. Functionally, the GRIGRI is like a car seatbelt: when movements are slow, the rope runs freely through the device; when there is a shock load, the GRIGRI locks, gripping the rope to the climber. This operating principle means the belayer won't be caught unawares by a sudden fall, a small person can easily and safely belay a larger one and students can safely belay students.

Ask your local outdoors store for a FREE Petzl colour catalogue.



PETZL

Petzl is exclusively distributed in Australia by Spelean Pty Ltd. (ACN 002 574067) Ph: (02) 264 2994

Introducing...

Omega Pacific

Omega Pacific has been manufacturing high quality karabiners in the USA since 1983.

Karabiners are our only business. we specialize in the design, engineering and construction of our own highly efficient manufacturing equipment, allowing us to offer the highest quality karabiners at affordable prices.

We use only the best heat treated aircraft quality aluminum, steel and stainless in our Karabiners. Our stringent quality control program proof tests every karabiner to a minimum of one half its rated strength. In addition each Karabiner is batch marked and samples from each batch are destruction tested to ensure structural integrity. Five hand inspections of each karabiner results in a smooth positive gate action.

The underside of Omega Pacific karabiners is hooded, eliminating the abrasive slot common to other gates, as well as adding strength. Our gates are spin rivetted for maximum reliability.

Our climbing karabiners are UIAA certified.

Exclusively distributed in Australia by Spelean Pty Ltd
(ACN 002 574067) Ph: (02) 264 2994 Fax: (02) 264 2935
In New Zealand Ph: 03 424 9038, Fax: 03 424 9037, Mobile 025 35 2161

ENTREPRISES AUSTRALIA

Climbing Walls

Holds.

Training Boards

Exceeds European Standards
NF P 90 300 & NF P 90 301

"The Climbing Wall Specialists"™

Complete Service from Entre-Prises Australia
Holds, Panels, Design & Construct
Tel: 018 523 073 Tel: (02) 264 2908 Fax: (02) 264 2935
PO Box 6300 Sydney 2006 Australia
In New Zealand Ph: 03 424 9038, Fax: 03 424 9037, Mobile 025 35 2161

Climb With The Best!
When you trust your life to a dynamic rope make it

BlueWater

Rock Serpent 9mm
Lightning 10mm
Flashpoint 10.5mm
Enduro 11mm

Reel in your rope upside down with the BlueWater Climbing Jetties FREE with every Dynamic Rope. Also available separately.

BlueWater
The Climbing Company.

Exclusively distributed in Australia by Spelean Pty Ltd
(ACN 002 574067) Ph: (02) 264 2994 Fax: (02) 264 2935
In New Zealand Ph: 03 424 9038, Fax: 03 424 9037, Mobile 025 35 2161

AVAILABLE IN LIGHT, MEDIUM & HEAVY TENSION

GRIP MASTER

WORLD'S FINEST HAND & FINGER EXERCISER

INDIVIDUAL SPRING-LOADED BUTTONS

THE ONLY SYSTEM ERGONOMICALLY DESIGNED TO CHALLENGE EACH FINGER INDIVIDUALLY

Develops strength, endurance, and control in hand, wrist and arm

Essential training tool for all athletes

THE POWER TO PERFORM IS IN YOUR HANDS!

Distributed by **ASPIRING ENTERPRISES** Tel/Fax (09) 245 3545, Mobile 015 477 420
PO Box 463, Scarborough, WA 6019

WILD GEAR SURVEY

faint clinical iodine taste. Two tablets would presumably be 'tastier'. However, I was able to drink the water without any trouble for several days, and would be happy to do so on other trips.

Tablets such as these would be the best option if you are after the lightest possible weight and don't want to spend time filtering water, or if you don't go walking very often and don't want to spend the hundreds of dollars needed for a filter. All you need is two water-bottles: 'drink now' and 'drink later'.

My recommendation would be to carry some in your first aid kit. However, be warned that the tablets do not last for ever: they absorb water and begin to decompose once the sealed bottle is opened. When they stop looking dry and powdery and start to go glassy, get a new bottle of tablets! Keeping them in a couple of good airtight bottles with some silica-gel desiccant works well, if you know how to keep the desiccant functional.

Puritabs, Essex Laboratories, UK

These contain 17 milligrams of sodium dichloroisocyanurate, which is basically a chlorination agent. Given a sufficiently high concentration and a fair bit of time they might be effective against *G lamblia*.

Micropur MT1, Katadyn, Switzerland

These are based on silver, which is an effective means of treating water for such things as typhoid and cholera (which are making a resurgence in some parts of the world). They are not, however, effective against *G lamblia* and should not be relied upon as a defence against giardiasis. For this reason I would classify them as insufficient for ensuring healthy water in our mountains.

Tincture of iodine

This is the really cheap way of doing it. You take tincture of iodine, which can be purchased at your local pharmacist, and use several drops a litre (depending on the size of the drops and the dilution of the tincture), with a five-ten minute wait. The trouble is that the iodine is in its least effective form, so you get the maximum dose and taste. There is also some question whether this form of iodine will work very effectively on *G lamblia*, or under very cold conditions. Given that there are fairly cheap alternatives, I would have doubts about using this method. I did not try it. It is interesting that some trekking agencies in Nepal still use such iodine drops, after boiling the water for ten minutes. ■

References

- Juranek, DD 1990, 'Giardiasis' (internal memo, Division of Parasitic Diseases, Centre for Disease Control, Atlanta, Georgia, USA).
- Davies, RB & Hibler, CP 1979, 'Animal Reservoirs and Cross-species Transmission of *Giardia*', *Waterborne Transmission of Giardiasis*, Hodi, JC & Janowski, J (eds).
- Rendtorff, RC 1954, 'The Experimental Transmission of Human Intestinal Protozoan Parasites, II', *American Journal of Hygiene*, vol 145, pp 202-220.
- The Centre for Continuing Education, ANU 1989, 'Giardia, an Emerging Issue in Water Management', *Proceedings*.
- Meier, PG & Schmidt, SD 1984, 'The Use of Filtration Devices for the Removal of *Giardia* Cysts', Paper presented to AWWA Conference, Denver, Colorado, USA.
- Marchin, GL *et al* 1983, 'Effect of Resin Disinfectants I and II on *Giardia muris* and *Giardia lamblia*', *Applied and Environmental Microbiology*, vol 46/5, p 965.

Roger Caffin, a CSIRO research scientist in wool technology for 25 years, has been bushwalking since he was a Scout. At present he lives in Sydney and spends his spare time walking in the Blue Mountains and crossing the Australian Alps on foot and by ski.

YOUR LEADING SPECIALIST STORE



THE LEADING SPECIALISTS
Established 1968

A Member of **INTERTREK**

SYDNEY

491 Kent St, Sydney 2000
Ph (02) 264 5888

CHATSWOOD

66 Archer St, Chatswood 2067
Ph (02) 419 6955

MAIL ORDER

491 Kent St, Sydney 2000
Fax (02) 264 2645

Where you'll find the **best** names in the outdoors...



GARMONT

On top, down under

- Men's or ladies' lasts
- Vibram or Skywalk soles
- All full-leather imported quality



FROM
\$199

Name _____
Address _____

Please send me information on

- ☐ Travel goods
- ☐ Bushwalking
- ☐ Climbing

CLIFFHANGER CLIMBING GYM



(03) 369 6400

Australia's 'Leading'
Climbing Gym

Built to UIAA International Standards

20 m Vertical Height

Kiosk

930 m²+ Climbing Surface

AME and Entre-Prises Panel Walls

No Time Limits

Air Conditioned

Carpeted Floors

20 m Lead Walls

Hire Shoes

Full Pro Shop

MELBOURNE'S BEST CLIMBING WALLS!



Bouldering cave and
new climbs
under
construction

CLIFFHANGER PRO SHOP



ARC'TERYX

LA SPORTIVA

HOW TO GET THERE



MELWAYS REF Map 54 G1



CLIFFHANGER CLIMBING GYM PTY LTD ACN 061 216 171

Westgate Sports & Leisure Complex, Cnr Grieve Pde and Doherty Rd, Altona North, Vic

ROCKCLIMBING GYMS

They're the latest thing in the city—a *Wild* survey

Climbing gyms have their origin in basement bouldering cellars and backyard brick-and-glue training walls. An old tradition in the wetter parts (which means all) of the UK, such amenities provide the perfect solution to the alarming loss of form and fitness experienced by dedicated climbers over the long winter months of inactivity.

The modern climbing gym, however, is more than just a place to sit out the winter blues: it has become a genuine *alternative* to climbing in the wilds. For some, the lure of a round-the-clock, dry, conveniently located 'cliff'—complete with kiosk, gear shop and plenty of awed spectators—is climbing heaven. Climbing gyms certainly provide a handy place to train or learn some of the basics of the craft, and are rapidly replacing traditional 'day-trip' crags as the location of many beginners' first taste of climbing.

Most gyms will supply the essential gear you require to use the walls; ropes are almost always in place but usually a fee is payable for harnesses, belay devices and chalk-bags. While sand-shoes are the normal attire for beginners, some gyms will hire out climbing boots.

Newcomers may want some instruction and most gyms will get you started free of charge. Particular attention should be paid to belaying; while the almost fail-safe Gri-gri belay device can be found in some gyms, most have more traditional equipment that requires some knowledge and practice to use properly. Ensure that you tie on to the rope with the same bombproof knots as are used in 'real' climbing. If the knots are already tied, make sure that you check them and clip them to your harness securely (with your screw-gate done up). Be certain that you have the harness on correctly. Further instruction—on technique, for example—can often be provided for a charge. (Another matter requiring great attention is warming up and warming down to reduce the risk of injury.)

The Climbing Wall Industry Group, a US organization of climbing-wall operators, recently asserted that only dynamic ropes, rather than the more frequently used, longer lasting static ropes, should be employed on climbing walls. While no injuries resulting from the use of static ropes—which may produce a greater shock force than dynamic ropes on both climber and wall in the event of a fall—have been reported, this finding should be borne in mind.

The range of holds that can be bolted to plywood or fibreglass walls is now enormous: look for variety in shape and size and for imaginative placement. If every hold is a tiny

Dave Jones, the second Australian to climb Punks in the Gym (grade 32), Mt Arapiles, Victoria (see *Wild* no 53), doing the 'gym thing'. Glenn Tempest



SUBSCRIBE TO Rock

AUSTRALIA'S CLIMBING MAGAZINE

Now, for the first time, *Rock, Australia's* climbing magazine, is available on subscription. That means that you can have the latest on Australian rockclimbing and mountaineering delivered to your door twice a year. And you can save money at the same time.

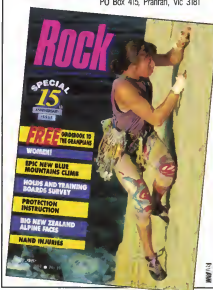
Order a *Rock* subscription now and save up to \$6.10 OFF the cover price. Not only will you be covered against price increases for the duration of your subscription, but if you wish to cancel your subscription for any reason we'll give you a full *pro rata* refund for all unmailed copies.

Just choose the term you prefer and send us payment with your name and address. Alternatively, you can phone (03 826 8483) or fax (03 826 3787) with your credit card details.

- 3 years (6 issues)
\$41.60 save \$6.10
- 2 years (4 issues)
\$29.30 save \$2.50
- 1 year (2 issues)
\$15.90

Psst! If you are among the first 50 people who mention this advertisement when ordering a new three-year subscription to *Rock* (for yourself or as a gift), we'll send you a *Rock* guidebook to Sydney and the Sea Cliffs, or Frog Buttress, or Cosmic County, or Tarana **FREE!** (These guidebooks have plastic covers and are valued at \$795 each.)

Wild Publications Pty Ltd
PO Box 415, Prahran, Vic. 3181



Wild Equipment Survey Rockclimbing gyms

	Hours	Cost (casual)	Cost (memberships)	Facilities
ANU Gym ANU Sports Union, Canberra, ACT 2601 Ph (06) 249 2699	Weekdays 7 am-10 pm weekends 9 am-3 pm	\$2.00 (student), \$5.00 (non-member)	\$40/year (student), \$40/year (sports union members), \$120/year (non-members)	L, P, G, W
Blue Mountains Climbing Center Mountain Designs, 190 Katoomba St, Katoomba, NSW 2760. Ph (047) 82 9999	Daily 9 am-5:30 pm (Thur: 9 am-7:30 pm)	\$5.00	\$150/year	I
Canberra City YMCA London Ct, Civic, ACT 2601. Ph (06) 249 8733	Weekdays 9 am-6 pm, Sat 9 am-2 pm, Sun 9:30 am-4 pm	\$4.00	\$60/three months	C, I, P, R
Central Australia YMCA Saddellon Pk, Alice Springs, NT 0870 Ph (088) 32 5666	Weekdays 8 am-8 pm, weekends 9:30 am-6 pm	\$8.00/two hours, \$6.00/two hours (concession)	\$200/year (\$222 concession)	L, L, P, R, S, W
City Crag Mountain Designs, 499 Kent St, Sydney, NSW 2000. Ph (02) 267 3922	Weekdays 9 am-6 pm, Sat 9 am-6 pm, Sun 10 am-5 pm	\$12.00	\$600/year	C, I, K (high foot), R, S
Cliffhanger Climbing Gym Westgate Sport & Leisure Complex, Cnr Grieve Pk & Doherty Rd, Albion North, Vic 3025. Ph (03) 369 6400	Weekdays 12 noon-10 pm, weekends 9 am-6 pm	\$7.00 (adult), \$5.00 (concession)	\$360/year (\$295 concession)	A, I, K, L, P, S
Grafton Climbing Wall South Grafton Pool & Gym Complex, 77 Cambridge St, South Grafton, NSW 2461. Ph (066) 42 3258	Weekdays 6 am-8 pm, weekends 10 am-6 pm	\$2.00	\$120/year (\$80 concessions) Shower periods available	K, P, S, T, W, BBQ facilities, pool, spa
Launceston College Climbing Gym Robson St, Launceston, Tas 7201, c/o Algonquin Pty Ltd, 71 York St, Launceston, Tas 7250. Ph (035) 31 9644	Weekdays 4 pm-10 pm, weekends closed	\$2.50, \$1.50 (student)	na	P, S
Lioness's Pit for All 81 Union St, Lismore, NSW 2480 Ph (086) 21 5589	Weekdays 6 am-9 pm, Sat 9 am-6 pm, Sun 4 pm-7 pm	\$6.00	\$70/ten visits, \$130/20 visits, \$240/40 visits	S, W, child-minding
Mountain Designs (Perth) 862 Hay St, Perth, WA 6000. Ph (08) 322 4774	Mon-Wed 6:30 am-5:30 pm, Thur-Fri 8:30 am-9 pm, Sat 8:30 am-4 pm, Sun: closed	\$3.00	\$100/year	R, W, library
Rock Gym 9 Ador Ave (In Police Citizen's Youth Club) Rockdale, NSW 2216. Ph (02) 567 7831	Weekdays 6 am-10 pm, (8 am-10 am book ahead), weekends 10 am-6 pm	\$6.00 (8 am-10 am), \$8.00 (10 am-6 pm), \$10.00 (5 pm-10 pm)	\$380/year	L, P, S, drinks
Rockcraze Sunbank Hills Fitness Centre, Shop 1, Level 4, Sunbank Hills Shopping Tmn, Cnr Coromandel & Calum Rds, Sunbank Hills, Qld 4109. Ph (07) 272 0148	Mon-Wed 8 am-9:30 pm, Thur-Fri 8 am-9 pm, Sat 8 am-5 pm, Sun 10 am-12 noon, 4 pm-7 pm	\$8.00	\$295/year	K, L, P, S, W, sauna,atorium
Rockclips, The Factory 228 Barry Pk, Fortitude Valley, Qld 4006 Ph (07) 216 0482	Daily 9:30 am-9:30 pm	\$8.00/three hours	\$540/year	L, K, L, S, W, W, pool tables
Rockworks Factory 1, 74 Lupton Ave, Thornesville, Vic 3074, Ph (03) 462 4054	Weekdays 10 am-10 pm, weekends 12 noon-9 pm	\$8.00	\$270/year	K, P
Sydney Indoor Climbing Gym 58 Liverpool Rd, Summer Pk, NSW 2130. Ph (02) 716 6949	Weekdays 10 am-9 pm, weekends 10 am-6 pm	\$8.00/four hours, \$6.50/four hours (concession)	\$200/year, then \$3.00/visit	L, L, P, R, S, W
The Climbing Centre Unit 3, 18 Brome Rd, Penrith, NSW 2750 Ph (047) 31 1135	Weekdays 10 am-10 pm, weekends 9 am-8 pm	\$8.00/four hours	\$500/year	K, P, S (women's only), free BBQ facilities
The Edge Indoor Climbing Centre Unit 10, 5 Salisbury Rd, Castle Hill, NSW 2154 Ph (02) 899 8235	Weekdays 10 am-10 pm, weekends 10 am-6 pm	\$8.00, \$7.00 (concession)	\$300/year (\$220 concession)	A, C, K, P, S, V
The Hardrock Climbing Company Pty Ltd Unit 2, 16 Verman Ct, Nunawading, Vic 3131, Ph (03) 594 4103	Weekdays 10 am-10 pm, weekends 12 noon-10 pm	\$8.00	\$300/year	C, P, R, V
The Rockcraze Unit 2, 65 Captain Cook Ave, Geelong, NSW 2225. Ph (02) 524 3944	Daily 9 am-10 pm	\$10.00 \$8.00 (children)	\$600/year	L, P, S
University of Tasmania Sport and Recreation Centre, Hobart, Tas 7009. Ph (035) 25 0294	Mon-Thur 8 am-11 pm, Fri 8 am-9 pm, weekends 10 am-6 pm	\$3.00	na	L, P, S
The Victorian Climbing Centre 12 Harcourt Ave, Seaford, Vic 3199 Ph (032) 782 4222	Weekdays 10 am-10 pm, weekends 12 noon-6 pm, winter Saturdays, noon-10 pm	\$7.00, \$5.00 (concession), (including gear hire \$12.00, \$9.00 (concession))	\$280/year (\$230 concession)	K, P, T
YMCA Rockclimbing Club 70 Yarrs St, Geelong, Vic 3220 Ph (032) 21 5344	Mon 10 am-6 pm, Tue-Thur 2 pm-5 pm, Fri 10 am-9 pm, Sat 1 pm-5 pm, Sun 10 am-6 pm	\$6.00	\$300/year, then \$4.00 (\$2.00 club nights)	L, S

A amenities C change rooms I instructor K kiosk L lockers na not available P parking R refreshments S showers T toilets V vending area W weight

Rating by stars	Number of climbs at grades a) 1-12, b) 13-19, c) 20+	Number of crimps, top-rope, lead	Height, maximum average (metres)	Frequency of route changes	Equipment for hire	Equipment for sale	Public transport	Meeting audio-visual facilities	Wall type	Comments
2 (new in 1999)	a) 6, b) 8, c) 7	12, na (new wall), 9, na (old wall)	12.0, 10.0	Every six-eight weeks	Rope and harness (\$2.00)	None	Five minutes from Canberra only	Both available	AME panels (new wall), brick (old wall)	There are two climbing walls: \$4.00 charge for old wall to non-members. Affiliated with ANU Mountaineering Club
3	Quite hard, steep	na, na	6.0, 4.5	Monthly	Books (\$5.00)	Full gear shop above	Train 200 m	TV, video	Plywood	Bouldering only
4	a) 3, b) 7, c) 4	14, 5	7.0, 7.0	Every three-four months	Harness, karabiner, short plate \$1.00/person	None	Bus 500 m	Meeting room	Brick and plywood	
5	a) 7, b) 4, c) 3	14, 3	9.2, 8.0	Approximately every six weeks	Harness (included in entry fee)	Chalk-bags, chalk, Lycra	Bus outside	Both available	Plywood	Bouldering wall, two steel stations
6	a) 20%, b) 40%, c) 40%	45-50, 12-15	17.0, 11.0	Some weekly, all monthly	Harness (\$5.00), books (\$5.00)	Full gear shop attached	Train/bus outside	TV, video	T-wall textured plywood panels	Dynamic ropes only
7	a) 17, b) 34, c) 35	43, 5	29.0, 13.0	Short every two-three weeks, long every four-six weeks	Harness (\$7.00), karabiner (\$2.00), books (\$5.00), chalk-bag and chalk-bag (\$2.00)	Full range of climbing equipment	Bus outside	Both available	Textured timber, AME and Entre-Press panels	Other facilities (pool, spa, weights, etc.) in complex. Wide range of facilities including media, arena. Group/club discounts. Soon to extend
8	b) 6a, c) 6	12, na	4.8, 4.8	Fortnightly	Rope, harness, karabiner, belay device (\$1.00/person)	None	Train 1.5 km	None	Brick and formed plywood	Maximum of three climbers simultaneously. 15 m bouldering wall. Affiliated with Northern Rivers Boulderers Club
9	a) 1, b) 7, c) 3	8, 7	8.0, 8.0	Every two-three months	None	None	Bus outside	None	Concrete	Two crack-climbs. Access arranged through Alpines Bush Hall, St Johns St, Launceston
10	a) 1, b) 4, c) 1	8, na	8.0, 8.0	Fortnightly	Harness (\$5.00)	None	Train, bus 'close'	Both available	Plywood	
11	c) 2	na, 2	4.0, 3.0	Monthly	Books (\$2.00)	Full gear shop below	Train, bus 'close'	Both available	Plywood	Bouldering, roof traverse
12	a) 25%, b) 30%, c) 45%	38, 2	8.0, 7.0	'Frequently'	Harness (\$5.00), books (\$5.00), both (\$5.00)	Harnesses, ropes, boots and other software	Train 'close', TV, video	Conference room, TV, video	Textured plywood	Any route can be led, two set up for leading at any one time
13	Varies	9, 2+	12.5, 8.0	Every two-four weeks (whole wall)	Harness (\$3.00), karabiner (\$2.00), short plate (\$2.00), third (\$4.00)	None	Bus 'close'	TV, video	Plywood	Bouldering wall Groups encouraged
14	a) 15, b) 26, c) 15	55, 55	12.0, 8.0	Monthly	Harness (\$5.00), books (\$4.00)	Full gear shop attached	Bus 100 m, train 250 m	Both available	Textured plywood	Membership includes retail outlet discounts. 100 m bouldering. Intense soon to extend
15	a) 7, b) 12, c) 9	24, 7	7.2, 6.5	Daily	Harness (\$4.00), books (\$3.00), chalk-bag (\$3.00)	Ropes, boots, rope bags, tape, cord, some hardware	Bus 300 m	TV, video	Wooden panels	Affiliated with RMIT (Sydney)
16	a) 10, b) 10, c) 15	33, na	12.4, 7.5	Fortnightly	Harness (\$4.00), books (\$5.00), chalk-bag (\$3.00)	Full range of climbing equipment, clothing, books	Bus outside, train 'close'	TV, video, slides on application	Refrain textured plywood	Seminars, Bouldering
17	a) 36, b) 38, c) 30	98, 6	12.5, 8.0	Daily	Harness (\$3.00), books (\$3.00), chalk-bag (\$2.00)	Full range of climbing equipment	Train and bus 'close'	TV, video	Textured plywood	Bouldering wall Finger boards
18	a) 2, b) 17, c) 15	30, 4	15.0, 6.0	Every three weeks	Harness (\$4.00), chalk-bag (\$2.00)	Full range of climbing equipment	Bus 'close'	An air-conditioned room with large-screen TV, video	Plywood and textured panels	Adjustable crack-climb
19	a) 15, b) 15, c) 14	38, 6	12.0, 8.0	Fortnightly	Harness, karabiner, short plate (\$4.00 all three), books (\$5.00)	Ropes, harness, karabiners, chalk-bags and chalk, range of hardware	Train, bus five minutes	Coffee lounge, TV, video	Textured panels	Bouldering wall, overhangs
20	a) 15, b) 40, c) 15	70, 4	8.0, 7.0	'Frequently'	Harness (\$3.00), karabiner (\$1.00), boots (\$3.00), chalk-bag (\$1.00)	Full range of climbing equipment, clothing	Train 'close'	Both available	Brick, concrete slabs and textured plywood	
21	b) 4, c) 8	10, na	7.0, 7.0	Monthly	To TUCC members only	na	Bus 200 m	Both available	Plywood	Members of the public must be placed on Tasmanian University Climbing Club wait list
22	a) 12, b) 20, c) 14	46, 7	8.0, 6.5	Two routes changed daily	Books (\$5.00), chalk-bag (\$2.00)	Harnesses, boots, hardware and software, guidebooks	Bus outside, train 700 m	Both available	Timber panel	Affiliated with Bayside Climbing Club
23	a) 5, b) 8, c) 4	10, 1	9.0, 7.0	Every eight weeks	Harness (included in entry fee)	None	Bus 'close'	On request	Plywood	Affiliated with Geelong YMCA

Climb with the best RATROX Holds & Structures



Distributed by
**SYDNEY INDOOR
CLIMBING GYM**
59 Liverpool Rd
Summer Hill, NSW 2130
Ph (02) 716 6949



Conveniently located at
16 VARMAN COURT, NUNAWADING
Melway Ref 48 E10. Close to Nunawading Station.

- A GREAT VARIETY OF TOP-ROPED AND LEAD CLIMBS
- ALL GEAR AVAILABLE FOR HIRE INCLUDING BOOTS
- FULLY STOCKED PRO SHOP
- ALL ANGLES FROM SLAB TO STEEP
- 15 m OF TRAVERSING WALL
- GROUP BOOKINGS WELCOME
- INTRODUCTORY COURSES AND TUITION FOR ALL LEVELS
- REFRESHMENTS AND A/V FACILITIES

NEW RADICALLY OVERHANGING LEAD ROUTE
WITH LARGE ROOF SECTION

MEGA 5 m BOULDERING CAVE

For more information and bookings please phone
(03) 894 4183 FAX (03) 894 3023



edge that must be crimped, expect sore tendons at the end of the day. A good hold should not necessarily be pinched, and requires you to use the features moulded into it. Routes that are well set demand some thought—not just a long reach. The tendency of wall designers to make hard routes by attaching lines of huge buckets to ridiculously overhanging walls may suit some muscle-bound weight-pumpers but has little to do with encouraging technique or even with providing enjoyment.

Moulded wall panels, such as those made by Entre-Prises or AME, are designed to simulate such features as tiny edges, bulges and slopes, but can still be boring if the routes have been poorly set. Most plywood walls are given a coat of textured paint to simulate a rough rock surface; such walls provide much more realistic 'stickiness' for smeared feet but come at the cost of quite rapid wear on boots; and the rougher surfaces can lead to grazed knuckles, elbows and knees.

The number and variety of routes, and the frequency with which they are changed, will govern how many visits you can expect before you can do every route one-handed with your eyes closed. Lately, the more popular gyms are becoming so crowded on busy nights that there might be a wait of up to 20 minutes before a rope becomes available. If the popularity of climbing gyms continues to increase, some 'rock' climbers just may be forced to return to the wilds and put up with the inconvenience of climbing rock.

David Burnett

TRIX

Drying socks the cosy way Steven Robinson

Wet socks? Camped where you can't light a fire to dry them, such as snow-camping above the tree-line?

One unpleasant way to dry them is to wear them to bed—most undesirable.

All is not lost, however. If you can spare sufficient stove fuel to boil some water, and have one (or, better still, two) water-bottles that will stand hot water (for example, Sigg bottles), take heart:

- fill your water-bottle/s with boiling water
- push it/them down as far into your wrung-out sock/s as possible
- lay it/them on something that won't be harmed by the high temperature
- watch the water-vapour pour out of your sock/s!

Heavy woolen socks might need the water reheated a bit before they dry fully. Just pour it back into the billy and bring it to the boil again.

Once you're done, you can use the water to make a cuppa (it's still clear!), or try this one for size: a water-bottle full of hot water stuffed inside a thick, dry sock is a great hot-water bottle for those who have trouble getting their feet warm when they climb into their cold sleeping-bags at night ■

Wild welcomes readers' contributions to this section; payment is at our standard rate. Send to the address at the end of this department.

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

Quick march

Danner boots are made in the USA, and have been available in Australia since late 1993. Danner's range includes walking boots, as well as boots for a host of other weird and wonderful uses. The *Fort Lewis* utilizes leather, Cambrelle and Gore-Tex lining, Thinsulate insulation, a cushioned insole and a Vibram sole. The *Acadia* is made of leather, Cordura, Gore-Tex, Cambrelle lining, Thinsulate insulation, a cushioned insole and Vibram sole. Both boots are of a high cut and sell for \$389 and \$350, respectively. The *Hood Winter LT* is also a high-cut boot, uses similar materials to the Fort Lewis and costs \$369. The *Danner Light* is constructed of similar materials to the Acadia but it is cut to a lower, 'traditional' boot height; RRP \$305. The *Colorado* looks more like a bushwalkers' boot than the others mentioned, and comprises Dri-lex lining, suede leather, Cordura and a



The Danner Colorado walking boot—good for crossing grand canyons? **Right**, the Wilderness Equipment Wild Child rucksack. (Keep looking out for the adult version...)

cushioned insole. RRP \$239. *Fergus Lindsay* (phone [02] 369 2752) is the Australian agent for Danner and at present only four shops stock Danner boots.

If American boots can be called Colorado and Fort Lewis, why not call an Australian boot *Bourke*? This is just what Australian boot manufacturer Rossi has done with its latest boot, which features a moulded sole, leather upper, Cambrelle lining, padded ankle area and a reinforced heel. These lightweight boots are available in sizes 4–12 and sell for around \$139. This latest offering from a long-established manufacturer is already proving to be very popular with walkers.

RUCKSACKS

Untamed infants

Outdoor Survival, distributor of *Tatonka day packs*, has sent us two of the latest models for review. The *Vento* is a top-loading 25 litre pack made from Trylon, a waterproof and abrasion-resistant fabric. It features pockets on the front and lid, and a mesh pocket and compression-straps on each side. The harness secures with a padded waist-belt and chest-strap. RRP \$98.

The *Cycle Bag* is a smaller day pack than the *Vento* and uses a tear-drop loading style.

Inside the pack is an elasticized pocket and on the front is a half-size zip pocket. It has a small mesh pocket on each side, a padded back and a non-padded waist-strap and chest-strap. RRP \$76.

With the *Wild Child*, a recent addition to the range of rucksacks from Australian manufacturer *Wilderness Equipment*, the young child or baby is simply placed in the 'seat' of the pack and is secured in place with a restraining strap and harness. The mesh seat on which the child sits can also be adjusted in height (relative to the pack) to accommodate children of different heights (but, no, it won't carry a 180 centimetre 'baby' with blisters and a bad attitude). At about the same dimensions as a conventional rucksack (and using a conventional harness system for the wearer), this canvas pack weighs about 2.2 kilograms when empty and also includes a mesh touch-tape pocket on the back (behind the child). There is a day-pack size zip pocket at the base of the pack, and compression-straps are on the side. RRP \$265.

MISCELLANEOUS

Potting-mix

The number of brands and styles of stainless steel billys you see in outdoor shops is on the increase. Among these are saucepans in five sizes from *Olicamp*. The *Kettle Set* contains a saucepan and a lid (which doubles as a frying-pan). The lid has a wire handle and the saucepan utilizes a handle that locks firmly when in the upright position. These lightweight sets range in volume from one litre to a five litre set (in increments of one litre). RRP \$31, \$38.50, \$45, \$63 and \$69, respectively.

Olicamp has also produced its own stainless steel version of a *cooking set*, similar to the



How to have red-hot adventures.



When you're ready to heat things up, the MSR WhisperLite™ stove is, too. This fuel-efficient Shellite stove is designed to light quickly, work consistently, and burn quietly. The WhisperLite weighs only 340 grams and folds into a compact unit that is ready to go.

MSR has a burning desire for excellence. All our stoves are made of quality materials such as stainless steel and brass and are 100% burn-tested before leaving our production floor. Designed for rugged use with no extra weight or complications, the WhisperLite is built to take you through the four seasons, the whole continent and more. MSR is blazing a trail.

Let our outdoor experience go along on yours.

Grant Minervini Agencies Pty Ltd

PO Box 209, WELLAND, SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5007 Phone: (08) 346 6061 Fax: (08) 340 0675



Box Foot Bag



Innovation reworked.

The Specialist Boxfoot sleeping-bags are the flagship of the MONT bag range. For Kosciuszko, Everest, Antarctica or anywhere the temperature drops below zero...there's only one name in winter sleeping-bags—MONT. Made in Australia to world stand-

ards. MONT's five box-foot winter sleeping-bags are guaranteed to keep you warm all night, every night.

Write to us now for your free product catalogue. Mont Catalogues, PO Box 995 Queanbeyan NSW 2620.

ADVENTURE
MONT
EQUIPMENT
The Australian Company



Geelong's newest indoor rockclimbing centre has grades from 5-30, professional instruction, hire equipment, refreshments.

All walls are textured.

26 Boswell St (off Westfarms St), Newtown, Geelong. Ph (052) 22 1684

Open 7 days

Mon-Fri: 9 am-10 pm

Sat-Sun: 11 am-6 pm

PHOTO: JIMMY



- * From Holds & Panels to Complete Wall Systems
- * Guardian Harnesses & Accessories
- * Also Recreational Fabrics.

INFORMATION FROM:



PO Box 336 ARARAT VICTORIA 3377

TELEPHONE (053) 56 6 309 OR (053) 52 1283

FACSIMILE (053) 56 6 322



At last a Quality Gym for Sydney's northern beaches.

All levels and abilities catered for.

OPENING SOON

FOR DETAILS:
Contact DAMIAN or PHIL

Ph (02) 918 0615 Fax. (02) 918 0004

well-known Trangia sets. The Multi Set 1 comes complete with two saucepans, a frying-pan, a kettle and a stove (no burner)—the Multi Set 2 does not include a kettle. RRP \$125.50 and \$92, respectively. These items are widely available in outdoor shops and are distributed by *Outdoor Survival*.

Bottles

Also from *Outdoor Survival* is the *Olicamp* range of stainless steel bottles. These are available in 0.3 litre, 0.5 litre, 0.7 litre and one litre sizes, and all are slightly heavier than their familiar aluminium counterparts. RRP \$24, \$25.50, \$28 and \$32, respectively.

The *Trangia* multifuel bottle has a unique valve which, it is claimed, only allows fuel to exit the bottle when you want it to. Available in two sizes, it sells for around \$20 (half litre size) and \$22 (one litre size). Distributed in Australia by *Ruscac Supplies*.

Hot stuff

Two new types of stoves fit directly on to screw-type gas cartridges, like those made by EPI Gas and Primus. The stainless steel *Top Gun* is available in three sizes—Small (210 grams), Medium and Large (290 grams)—the stoves utilize folding pot-supports and can be packed into a small billy or pot for storage or transportation. They sell for around \$30, \$35 and \$40, respectively.

The *Honey Bird Pack-in* stove has three snap-in legs/pot-supports, weighs only 250 grams, comes with a small stuff sack and costs about \$40. Both products are distributed by *Ruscac Supplies*.

Bagged

When browsing through the seemingly endless range of outdoor clothing available you may have noticed two new fabrics—*DryLoft* and *WindStopper*, both manufactured by W L Gore and Associates, the makers of Gore-Tex. *DryLoft* is intended to be a highly breathable and waterproof fabric used in the manufacture of baffled or quilted items (such as sleeping-bags). It is used to protect insulation from rain and snow on the outside and moisture vapour on the inside, and is designed to be windproof. Thus *DryLoft*'s overall function is to keep insulation dry and improve the effectiveness of the insulated item.

WindStopper is a highly breathable fabric claimed to be totally windproof. It is made by incorporating a lightweight membrane into an outdoor fabric such as fleece to produce a warm, windproof garment. It is important to note that items made from *WindStopper* are not waterproof, however.

Fort Knox

The new *Sacklock*, distributed by *Outdoor Survival*, is to a rucksack what a steering-wheel lock is to a car. This easy-to-use device simply attaches to a 25 millimetre Fastex buckle (common on hood-closing straps on most rucksacks). When locked in place, the buckle cannot be opened and your pack is secure, at least in theory, from thieves. While the *Sacklock* is no protection against a sharp knife and a quick hand (not to mention kidnappers!), its value as a deterrent is obvious. RRP \$25.

EQUIPMENT

Technoweenies' delight

The *KX-G5520X*, the latest GPS receiver from *Panasonic*, is a small, hand-held device that can store 99 locations, nine reversible routes, will display your position in either latitude and longitude or Universal Transverse Mercator co-ordinates, and can be read in the dark. The receiver is powered by an AA alkaline battery



The latest packet of chips from Panasonic—the KX-G5520X GPS receiver.

pack with a lithium battery as a memory back-up. The receiver comes with a carry-strap and AA battery case, with options including AC adapter, external antenna adapter, adjustable mount and microwave oven...just kidding about the microwave oven. Phone *Panasonic* for further information on 13 2600. RRP \$995.

Pole sitting

To the top of Mt Rainier, to a bike ride across America, *Pole Pack* has done it. Working so well you will forget the weight of your camping gear. When we read this in the leaflet we were as intrigued as *Wild* reader, Jan Van Emden, who obtained it by answering an advertisement in a US magazine and sent it on to us for the benefit of staff gear freaks and readers who may want to ease the weight of their rucksack off tired shoulders. The nifty device is pictured in 'hiking', biking and skiing mode. Things might be different on Mt Rainier but we suspect that *Pole Pack* might meet its match in Tasmania's bogs and scrub.

Shady aid

New Zealand's Ministry of Health has published a brochure detailing broad spectrum sunscreens with a sun protection factor (SPF) rating of 15 or higher (there are over 1300). All sunscreens listed block out enough UV light to comply with the Australian/New Zealand Standard test for broad-spectrum protection. ■

New products (on loan to *Wild*) and/or information about them, including colour slides, are welcome for possible review in this department. Written items should be typed, include recommended retail prices and preferably not exceed 200 words. Send to the Editor, *Wild*, PO Box 415, Prahran, Vic 3181.



**When the track gets tough,
the tough get into..**



SPORT
COMFORT

By



HIKE - The ultimate insoles for all outdoor activities!

Reduce the harmful effects of impact stress!

Impact waves travel up the leg, placing stress upon ankle, knee, hip and spine.

SPORT COMFORT IMPLUST™ is made from a revolutionary open-cell foam, combining shock-absorption and total foot comfort.

• **Light** • **Durable** • **Washable** • **Comfortable**

Performance enhancing insoles!

* Available at Paddy Pallin, Kathmandu, Scout Outdoor, Mountain Designs and all good outdoor specialists and leading pharmacies.

WALKS, WALKS, WALKS!

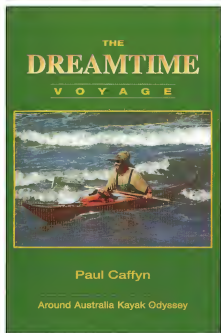
Tyrone Thomas's pen runs amok

BOOKS

The Dreamtime Voyage

by Paul Caffyn (Kayak Dundee Press, 1994, RRP \$42 including packing and airmail postage from RD 1, Runanga, West Coast, New Zealand, or from NSW and Qld canoe shops).

When the bow of Paul Caffyn's sea kayak *Laguli* nosed into the beach at Queenscliff, Victoria, on 23 December 1982, the first circumnavigation of Australia by kayak was complete. This 15 000 kilometre, 360-day journey—surely one of the greatest individual odysseys this country has ever seen—is recounted in *The Dreamtime Voyage*.



This is a tale of one man's struggle with wind and tides, treacherous surf and daunting expanses of coastal cliff, not to mention sharks, crocodiles, sea snakes and box jellyfish. Above all it is about summoning the resolve to keep paddling day after day in dogged pursuit of an ambitious objective. For all the stout-hearted support of his back-up crew, the reader feels that Caffyn is very much on his own.

This commitment is a strong undercurrent throughout the book but it never swamps the story. Caffyn's lengthy narrative is chatty and easygoing with moments of drama, wit and candour. Though born in Sydney and bred in Brisbane, his vernacular is unmistakably Kiwi. He's chuffed with good paddling days, has good fun with his cobbers and at times gets into a wee bit of trouble.

Given the gruelling timetable it is inevitable that many stretches of coastline receive only

fleeting coverage. While attuned to natural splendours, the focus of the book is firmly on the task in hand. The photos similarly reflect the difficulty of creating memorable images when trussed in a kayak. Nevertheless a generous selection of colour and black-and-white shots assists in documenting the voyage. The only serious omission are maps to help the reader to navigate through the stages detailed in each chapter.

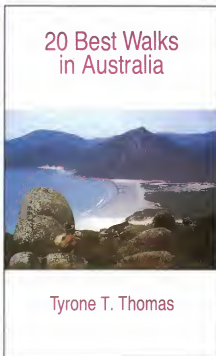
Ultimately Caffyn's 'Dreamtime' is not some attachment to a specific place or faux mythology. Rather it is the simple, nomadic life he can lead with his boat. There is the daily tussle with the elements, there are the rituals of making camp in spectacular surroundings and meeting characters who share his bond with the sea and its margins. For all its undoubted rigours, it is an existence reduced to a few of the more meaningful essentials. Anyone with the taste for such a life will relish this tale.

Quentin Chester

20 Best Walks in Australia

by Tyrone Thomas (Hill of Content, second edition 1994, RRP \$17.95).

This guide covers an extremely wide variety of walks ranging from wanders around tourist regions like Port Arthur to hard one-day walks such as Mt Bartle Frere and multi-day walks like the Overland Track. While the walks selected are very good, the title of the 'best' is a bit of a misnomer. Walks described by the author in his other books as some of Australia's best have not been included here.



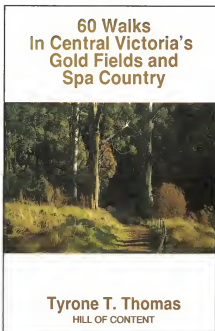
In my opinion, the book's major fault is the inconsistency of the walks selected. The book states that special attention is given to overseas visitors. It is implied that they will have had little experience, so walks which wander around Sydney Harbour and Port Arthur in Tasmania are included. However, there is also a 29 kilometre day walk near Sydney which would be too long for an inexperienced walker.

Many of the management requirements for specific areas are not described, such as the entry fee to Port Arthur, the fire-bans for the Overland Track or the camping ban at the alpine lakes near Mt Kosciuszko. These—and others—are well-established restrictions which should have been included. The notes themselves are well written and interesting to read and the majority of the walks are well suited for short-term visitors to Australia. If the few harder walks were replaced, the guide would be closer to its intended aim.

John Chapman

60 Walks in Central Victoria's Gold Fields and Spa Country

by Tyrone Thomas (Hill of Content, 1994, RRP \$17.95).



Bushwalking authors don't come more prolific than Tyrone Thomas. His books of track notes now number 12, including two German-language titles and one in its fifth edition. And with time they have progressed from the first controversial and rather primitively produced efforts.

His latest publication, *60 Walks*, should have considerable appeal to many Victorian

ARKOS, IN TRUE ITALIAN STYLE



ARKOS CORTINA \$239

A classic boot with water-repellent one piece full grain leather upper. Dual density SKYWALKER sole. Anti-bacteria Cambrelle lining. Soft full grain leather spoiler support and Dual density anatomical insole. Available exclusively from Intertrek.



IN STEP WITH NATURE

12 BASE CAMP 100 Wickham Street FORTITUDE VALLEY 4006 Phone (07) 854 1340 • 10196 MOUNTAIN CRAFT 125 Magill Road TARINGA 4068 Phone (07) 870 2699 • ADVENTURE CAMPING EQUIPMENT 11 Ross River Road TOWNSVILLE 4812 Phone (077) 75 676 • MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT 491 Kent Street SYDNEY 2000 Phone (02) 264 3165 • MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT 66 Archer Street CHATSWOOD 2037 Phone (02) 497 6955 • EASTWOOD CAMPING CENTRE 3 Trevelyan Street EASTWOOD 2122 Phone (02) 858 3833 • SOUTH-EAST CROSS EQUIPMENT 156 Bruner Road ADAMSTOWN 2289 Phone (049) 62 2345 • BUSHCRAFT EQUIPMENT 29 Stewart Street WOLLONGONG 2500 Phone (042) 29 6748 • JUNEVICE ADVENTURE SPORTS 47 Wollongong Street PISHWICK 2409 Phone (03) 280 6519 • JUNEVICE ADVENTURE SPORTS 4 Gellie Court BELCONNEN 2517 Phone (03) 253 2499 • THE OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE 818 Moscalley Street ALBURY 2640 Phone (042) 215 736 • 305 GONG 214 Little Bourne Street MELBOURNE 3000 Phone (03) 400 0599 • THE WILDERNESS SHOP 1 Carrington Road BOX HILL 3128 Phone (03) 898 3182 • OUTSPORTS 3108 Hawthorn Road CAULFIELD SOUTH 3462 Phone (03) 523 5727 • OUTSPORTS 36 Young Street FRANKSTON 3199 Phone (03) 783 2079 • JULY SWAGMAN 107 Elizabeth Street HOBART 7000 Phone (002) 34 3999 • WILDERNESS EQUIPMENT c/o String Hwy 3, Leura Ave CLAREMONT 6010 Phone (02) 535 3171



Treat your feet to the most comfortable and durable walking boots you can buy. The new Scarpa Australian footwear catalogue is walking out the door. So trap your **FREE** copy by phoning (02) 517 1155, or fax (02) 550 2969.

Outdoor Agencies Pty Ltd
Ph (02) 517 1155 Fax (02) 550 2969

Waterproofing Solutions

AQUASEAL



The Aquaseal™ product line is growing! Our new products offer the quality you have come to rely on. Look to the Waterproofing People for all your waterproofing needs.

LEATHER - BOOTS
PAPER - MAPS
NYLON - TENTS

Whatever the problem, there is an AQUASEAL™ product for the solution.

Call or write for descriptive catalogue and your nearest stockist.

Grant Minervini
Agencies Pty Ltd
PO Box 209, Welland
South Australia 5007
Ph (08) 346 6061
Fax (08) 340 0675



From the Rugged Pacific Northwest

FOR N. Z. MOUNTAINEERING COURSES AND GUIDED CLIMBS ASK FOR THIS BROCHURE:



Directed by UIAGM Guides Guy Cotter, Nick Craddock and Paul Scaife in the Mt. Aspiring and Mt. Cook National Parks.

• MOUNTAINEERING COURSES • ROCK CLIMBING
• SKI-TOURING • TREKKING • GUIDED ASCENTS

For further information contact your travel agent or

MOUNT ASPIRING GUIDES

The Adventure Centre
PO Box 177 Wanaka N.Z.
Ph. 64-03-443 9422 or Fax 64-03-443 9876



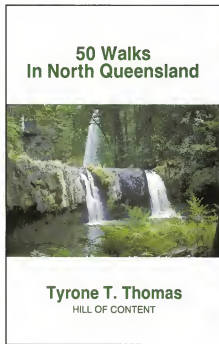
walkers looking for (mostly day) walking country away from the usual haunts. The chosen walks are heavily slanted towards the inexperienced and/or those unaccustomed to too much strain accompanying their walking experiences. The maps are generally clear and helpful; there is a sprinkling of workmanlike, rather than inspiring, colour photos; and the standard of publication of this little paperback is reasonably good.

Chris Baxter

50 Walks in North Queensland

by Tyrone Thomas (Hill of Content, 1994, RRP \$15.95).

Bushwalkers have long been familiar with the Tyrone Thomas guidebook formula and *50 Walks in North Queensland* follows in the tradition. The layout of this recent publication is similar to previous ones and it is quite easy to find a suitable walk using the area map, table of gradings and listings which sort the walks according to difficulty, distance and place. The standard of the publication is better than Thomas's earlier releases.



The walks are mostly short (a few hours) although the few longer ones included take several days. The major areas covered include Hinchinbrook Island, the Daintree, Mt Bartle Frere and a host of smaller regions stretching along the coast from the Whitsunday Islands to Cape Tribulation and west to Chillagoe Caves and Porcupine Gorge near Hughenden. Short chapters deal with climate, equipment and safety. While brief, these discussions probably contain all that needs to be included in such a book.

A map accompanies the track notes for each walk. Although clearly explaining the route, these maps tend to lack aesthetic appeal. Several pages of colour photos show wide shots of some of the regions, giving the prospective visitor an indication of what to expect. An index of place names would have been a useful addition.

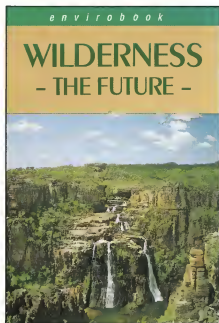
Without getting too serious, the book is a good introduction to some of the most popular walks in north Queensland. Its 140 pages and small format make it compact and light enough to be very unobtrusive in the pack.

Robert Rankin

Wilderness—the Future (Papers from the Fourth National Wilderness Conference 1993)

edited by Will Barton (Envirobook, 1994, RRP \$24.95).

Those who read *Wild* will generally need no persuasion regarding the value of wilderness. They already find inspiration and adventure in our wild places and many will have experienced threats to wilderness areas.



In the time that I have been bushwalking, Lake Pedder was flooded before I could see it; loggers—bleating about a 'sustainable' industry—have moved into ever more remote places, and roads have encroached further and further into wilderness areas.

Reading the papers from the Fourth National Wilderness Conference provides more emotional ups and downs than walking the Yo-yo Track. It is inspiring as one thinks of the wilderness itself and the great efforts people have made to save it; it is depressing to look at the way large-scale developers keep invading yet more areas of our diminishing wilderness.

Some of the material is measured research about management of particular areas, an essential part of the fight for wilderness.

Some is more novel, such as Tim Bonyhady's fascinating exploration of the relationship between art and wilderness in Australia, which illustrated many links I had not known of between early artists and photographers and efforts to save the areas they loved.

Bob Brown's feisty piece on the future of wilderness in Australia is inspiring in the way so much of what he says can be. At one point, he cogently attacks calls for 'balance' when all this really means is yet more destruction of our diminishing wilderness heritage.

Two papers explore the native-title issue.

Overall, *Wilderness: the Future* provides an important overview of the state of wilderness and the struggle to preserve it in Australia today.

Brian Walters

The Idea of Wilderness—from Prehistory to the Age of Ecology

by Max Oelschlaeger (Yale University, 1993).

In the long term, it is the work of thinkers and philosophers which will do most to reshape our world.

While I have some reservations about the work, Oelschlaeger's book is without question one of the major contributions to the discussion of wilderness in recent years.

There are few works with which to compare Oelschlaeger's herculean overview: perhaps John Passmore's *Man's Responsibility for Nature*, or Roderick Nash's *Wilderness and the American Mind* are two, but they are far less grand in scope.

Oelschlaeger runs the gamut from pre-civilized cultural views of wilderness, through ancient Mediterranean ideas, and on to modern thinkers.

He deals in detail with the American philosophers Thoreau, Muir and Leopold, and critically examines a number of modern wilderness philosophies, from deep ecology to ecofeminism to ecocentrism.

Australian readers may miss the needed discussion of Australian indigenous attitudes to the land, which are not adequately considered in the book's discussion of the neolithic and palaeolithic eras, and there may be too much about American thinkers.

Oelschlaeger's work is scholarly philosophy, and thus will not appeal to most readers. However, as the pre-eminent modern work on the philosophy of wilderness, it will have a great impact on what is written in this field in years to come.

BW

Earthforce! An Earth Warrior's Guide to Strategy

by Paul Watson (Chaco Press, 1993).

Paul Watson is the founder of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, and leader of several audacious expeditions on the world's oceans to stop whaling, drift-netting, sealing, and the slaughter of dolphins. Watson's approach is simple, direct and effective; he rams and sinks illegal whaling- and sealing-ships. He proudly emphasizes the society's record of never having caused or suffered a human death or injury while protecting the lives of hundreds of thousands of marine animals.

Earthforce!, his first book (subtitled 'An Earth Warrior's Guide to Gripping Personal Account of his many dramatic confrontations with pirate whalers on the high seas, of how he handled each situation, and of his own philosophies on direct action. Such a book would undoubtedly have been moving, inspirational and educational for a lot of humbler and less flamboyant 'earth warriors'. *Earthforce!*, however, reads more like a bad parody of a CIA spy manual. It is a poorly written mishmash of Watson's opinions on

100 PER CENT AUSTRALIAN MADE AND OWNED



AVAILABLE AT ALL
LEADING CAMPING AND DISPOSAL STORES

WILD 1-9

berghaus PACKS DESIGNED TO FIT



TP 1

Simple and uncluttered, the TP 1 is a single-compartment pack with a front pocket. Fully featured! Includes five internal organizer pockets and a removable toiletries bag.

Model: TP 1
Capacity: 70, 75, 80 litres
Sizes: 2, 3, 4
Weight: 2.3 kg



TP 1 Plus

A single-compartment pack that has a removable (zip-off) day pack. The day pack can be clipped to the front of the harness to help balance the load. Fully featured! Includes five internal organizer pockets and a removable toiletries bag.

Model: TP 1 Plus
Capacity: 70, 75, 80 litres
Sizes: 2, 3, 4
Weight: 2.4 kg



TP 2 Plus

A versatile pack that has a front zip-opening, plus a zippered bottom compartment and a removable day pack. Fully featured! Includes five internal pockets and a removable toiletries bag.

Model: TP 2 Plus
Capacity: 68, 70, 75, 80 litres
Sizes: 1, 2, 3, 4
Weight: 2.5 kg



Hybrid

A cross-over pack you can take travelling or bushwalking. Top-opening like a pack, but also a zippered front-opening and harness cover like a travel pack. The pack to take you anywhere.

Model: Hybrid
Capacity: 80, 85, 90 litres
Sizes: 2, 3, 4
Weight: 2.7 kg

**JUST LIKE CLOTHES, BERGHAUS PACKS COME IN DIFFERENT SIZES
JUST LIKE CLOTHES, THEY FIT BETTER THAT WAY.**

ALL BERGHAUS PACKS ARE COVERED BY AN INTERNATIONAL LIFETIME WARRANTY

DISTRIBUTED BY OUTDOOR AGENCIES. PH: (02) 517 1155. FAX: (02) 550 2969.

Improve Your SITuation

Convert your
Therm-a-Rest
mattress to a
chair. Just add
a Therm-a-Rest®
Chair Kit. Sleeping
comfort becomes
sitting comfort.

Whatever
size mattress,
there's a Chair
Kit for you.
One size fits
all six 63cm
Therm-a-Rest
models. Another
for all three 63cm
wide Camp Rest
models.

Only one
Therm-a-Rest®
Chair Kit
is right—
the one you'll
naturally know
you're
carrying it.

The best self-inflating
camping mattress in
the world becomes
the best seat in camp.
Sit back, enjoy true back
support and relax in
a Therm-a-Rest® R chair.
Then unfold for the best
night's sleep outdoors.

For information and stockists
contact: Consumer Service Dept.
Grant Minervini Agencies Pty. Ltd.
19 Hindmarsh Avenue
Welland, S. Australia 5007
Phone Toll Free: 008 882 058

©1993 Cascade Designs Inc

THERM-A-REST®
Mattresses and Chair Kits

just about everything from abortion to deviant criminal behaviour, and a strong odour of hubris pervades the book. The cover gives a clue to what's inside: the author has awarded himself the title of 'Captain', and the dominating graphic is planet Earth covered in metal spikes to depict a fearsome-looking mace. This graphic was kindly contributed by *Playboy* magazine, a publication which probably regards bunnies as an endangered species.

The book purports to be an amalgamation of the philosophies of four principal contributors: Sun Tzu, an ancient Chinese general; Miyamoto Musashi, a Japanese master samurai; Marshal McLuhan, a Canadian professor of media philosophy; and, of course, Watson himself. In fact it is a bizarre cocktail of Watson's interpretations of these and others' writing. The text is chock-a-block with such popular spy novel language as 'the enemy', 'infiltrator', 'expedient agents' and the like. This vocabulary is juxtaposed with pretentious Latin aphorisms under every chapter heading as well as a sprinkling of quotations from cross-cultural sources ranging from Woody Allen to Chief Seattle, some of which have no relevance to the rest of the text. On page 59, for instance, a delightful 19th-century Japanese haiku poem about a moment of self-realization is plonked completely out of context in the middle of a chapter on how to deal with enemy infiltrators in your environmental organization.

Watson chooses some unlikely targets for his tirade: not greedy whalers, or even capitalism as one might expect, but seemingly the entire cultural and religious heritage of human endeavour since the year dot. Everything human-made from the pyramids to Van Gogh's art and symphony music is roundly dismissed as mere monuments to human vanity. Watson does not attempt to convince the reader of the rightness of 'deep ecology'; he simply takes it as a given. In later chapters, his even more bizarre views emerge; for instance, his implication that all deviant criminals are born of women who would have aborted them were it not for anti-abortion laws! (page 31) He goes on to assert that 'the most dangerous threat to the future has come about: the lethal explosion of human populations'. As a deep ecologist he should know better: he has not addressed the problem of the grossly unjust consumption of the rich nations, which condemns the poorest communities in the world to having large families—their only hope in places without pensions, superannuation or social security. The single most significant key to family size reduction has been women's access to health and education.

Earthforce! does have one or two redeeming qualities. The book is peppered with gripping anecdotes of some of Watson's campaign episodes and one can appreciate his boldness and imagination in dealing with life-threatening situations. However, because he includes these stories only to illustrate a point of strategy within the broader text, their emotional impact is diminished. Watson comes across as a calculating, omniscient autocrat wielding absolute mastery over everything—including his feelings. Often, too, his stories serve to score points against the

inferior tactics of the enemy, the police, infiltrators, or other environmental groups like Greenpeace.

Earthforce! could have been brilliant, stimulating and wise. Instead it is an arrogant and impoverished exhibition of Captain Paul Watson's egotism. I must say I was disappointed.

Louise Shepherd

VIDEOS

Tarkiner Paner

(Kaganovich Productions, second edition 1993, RRP \$16.95 from the producer, PO Box 83, Paddington, NSW 2021).

Made on behalf of the Wilderness Society, *Tarkiner Paner* is a 22-minute video documentary promoting the natural and historic values of the Tarkine wilderness of north-west Tasmania.

The 450 000 hectare Tarkine wilderness is an unprotected area that contains Australia's largest tract of undisturbed rain forest. Its diverse environment contains rain forest, eucalypt forest, plains, scrub, sand dunes and coastal features. It also supports the magnificent Huon pine and is a refuge for a species of large (up to one metre in length) freshwater crayfish. Until their demise last century, Aborigines had also lived in the region for about 500 generations—the Tarkine holds a strong spiritual significance for today's Aborigines.

The video highlights the Tarkine as an important area for World Heritage listing, particularly for its variety of scenery and landscapes, flora and fauna, and Aboriginal historic sites. In December 1990 the International Union for the Conservation of Nature recommended that the Tarkine be considered for World Heritage status.

But the Tarkine is under threat. Vehicular access is causing erosion in many places, wood-chip mills are planned for the northern and eastern edges of the Tarkine, and in May 1993 mining resource security legislation was passed by the Tasmanian Government which guaranteed unlimited access to all wilderness areas outside the World Heritage Area.

It is hoped that by the production of this video, knowledge of this area and its values will increase, and that this increased knowledge among Australians will lead to the area being protected as part of the World Heritage Area.

You may need to be quick if you want to purchase a copy of this video as the first edition sold out in three weeks.

Glenn van der Knijff

MAPS

Mallacoota

(Vicmap, 1994, RRP \$8.00).

This newest full-colour map in the Outdoor Leisure Series includes Genoa and Gipsy Point in the north, Wingan Inlet in the west, Cape Howe in the east and all areas in between at a scale of 1:50 000. There is also an inset map of Mallacoota and Mallacoota Inlet at a scale of 1:25 000. ■

Go

Publications for possible review are welcome. Send them to the Editor, Wild, PO Box 415, Prahran, Vic 3181.



"After you've seen
BOURKE there's nothing else."

Rossi Boots

BY ROSSITERS

WORLDWIDE LEADERS

BREASTS OR THE BOTTLE

Nestlé ads in *Wild* under fire

I would first like to commend you on your ethical advertising policy; you produce one of the few glossy magazines which does not advertise four-wheel-drives and the timber industry. For that reason I was surprised to see Nestlé ads in *Wild*...

The World Health Organization estimates that some 1.5 million infant deaths a year, mostly in developing countries, could be averted through effective breast-feeding. Baby milk companies, such as Nestlé, are fully aware that infants die from unsafe bottle-feeding, yet they continue to promote their milk products to mothers and health workers in developing countries.

Breast milk is the perfect food for babies, it is always clean, fresh, free and provides vital antibodies which protect against infection. Given the right help and support, some 99 per cent of mothers can breast-feed. In southern Brazilian cities, research has found that babies receiving no breast milk are 14 times more likely to die from diarrhoea than breast-fed babies.

An international Nestlé boycott was started in 1977; in 1981 the World Health Organization introduced a code on the marketing of breast-milk substitutes, and in 1984 Nestlé agreed to abide by the code and the boycott was stopped. By the late 1980s it became apparent that Nestlé was still violating the code, and the boycott was reinstated.

Nestlé violates the World Health Organization's international code in many ways, including:

- by providing free supplies of baby formula to hospitals in more than 50 countries
- by labelling its packaging in a language not understood by mothers in 11 countries
- by advertising whole-milk powder for newborn babies in Malaysia even though this isn't safe for babies under six months old...

Indra Esguerra
O'Connor, ACT

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the recent complaint made by a member of Community Aid Abroad urging you to reject advertising by Nestlé Australia. Let me assure you that this small group's claims are false and misleading.

For over three years now, this small group of activists has claimed that Nestlé violates international and Australian agreements in marketing its infant formula products. In Australia, the Government's Advisory Panel on the Marketing in Australia of Infant Formula (APMAIF), which reviews all allegations, has never upheld any such complaint against Nestlé.

Nestlé markets its infant formula products responsibly, in line with international and

Australian agreements and is deeply committed to infant and maternal nutrition.

P J Kelly

Manager

Corporate and Consumer Affairs
Nestlé Australia Ltd
Sydney, NSW

A total idiot

Recently in *Wild* there have been various articles regarding 'hi-tech' bushwalking. As an avid supporter of this, I would like to express my views on the subject...

Mobile phones and GPS units shouldn't be frowned upon as a safety measure—anything that makes outdoor activities safer and more enjoyable should be encouraged...

A phone a group would save time and money during search and rescue, reassure accident victims, and also reassure relatives of overdue parties.

HI-TECH HIKER



A GPS, map and compass would steer you safely towards your destination, home, or out of trouble.

You would be a total idiot to wholly and solely rely on phones and GPS units as safety measures—nothing beats common sense, planning, walking within your capabilities, and good map and compass skills...

Ken Fraser
Hieron, Qld

Equal joy

My girlfriend has an artificial hip and is receiving an artificial leg, yet even though we have an Equal Opportunities Act she is not

entitled to visit wilderness areas in our National Parks due to the fact that she can only walk short distances. I feel these wilderness areas have been locked up by greedy bureaucrats and conservationists who are the elite few who are either super-fit or who have a key. Why should I have to break the law to drive my girlfriend into these areas so she can experience equal joy?...

C P Skeates
Garrahan, ACT

Bloody generators

Just a note to voice a concern about the amount of coverage rockclimbing is getting in the mag at the moment. They've got their own publication. Leave it to that. Anyway, how you can call putting in hundreds of bolts up a rock-face rockclimbing is beyond me (not to mention using bloody generators for this purpose)...

Ben Wilson
Katoomba, NSW

ZPG

Thanks to Marjorie Gray (*Wildfire*, *Wild* no 53) for calling on the green lobby to get behind the move for reduced immigration to Australia.

She correctly points out that the natural increase of population in Australia is now zero or slightly negative, and that all the present increase is due to immigration. This immigration continues to put pressure on our fragile environment—more houses, more roads, more cars...

I have recently been to North America, Europe and Asia and have come to realize that Australia's greatest asset is its relatively low population density. Other people do not have the tremendous benefit of being able to drive out of the city for a couple of hours into quiet country villages or primitive wilderness.

The recession has prompted the government to effectively halve net immigration over the last few years. Australians should strongly urge that this trend is continued until we approach the ultimate goal of zero population growth.

Tasmania has it now, and is benefiting with a more relaxed, pollution-free and healthier environment. Zero population growth should be an aim for all of Australia.

Rick Jamieson
Bowen Mountain, NSW

Very little research

On page 19 of *Wild* no 54 [sic] is an item concerning a couple who 'will become the first Australian couple to spend the winter in Antarctica during 1995'.

Unfortunately for Don and Margie McIntyre, the couple involved, this is not

Dine Out with Alliance

When you're far from home, be prepared with Alliance Freeze Dri pre-cooked meals. Nutritious, ultra-light and ruggedly packed, these easy-to-prepare meals will go as far as you do.

Alliance Freeze Dri — where 'dining out' takes on a whole new meaning.



Alliance Freeze Dri

Australian Distributors: Anasco Pty Ltd Phone (03) 471 1500 Fax (03) 471 1600/Outdoor Agencies Pty Ltd Phone (02) 517 1155

Alliance Foods Limited
PO Box 845, Invercargill, New Zealand
Telephone (03) 215 8850
Fax (03) 215 8998



A quick cup of coffee without the fuss?

All you need is NESTLÉ 'Coffee & Milk'. Coffee, milk and sugar deliciously combined in one convenient pack.

No need for refrigeration.

Just add boiling water.

Anywhere, anytime.

3 IN 1 The Convenient Cuppa.



Nestlé Australia Ltd. A.C.N. 000011 316

© Reg'd, used under agreement with the trademark owners.

NES0001

MERRELL

Outdoor footwear for all seasons.



Merrell Model: Lazer

Sizes: Men 7-13, 14	Women 5-11
Weight: 960 g	Colour: Grey/Alpine, Green/Plum

Leather/Cordura Upper. Above-ankle height provides support without constriction. The upper is constructed of leather reinforced with rugged 1000 denier Cordura.

Quick Dry Lining. Moves sweat and moisture away from feet to keep them dry and comfortable.

Merrell Free Flex Insole. Full-length composite Texon insole reinforced with 3/4-length composite fibre and steel shank. Insole is positioned for stability and control, without sacrificing the free-flex at the forefoot.

Air-Cushion Mid-sole. Our patented air-chamber mid-sole provides built-in shock absorption and stability.

Dual Density Foot-bed. A two-layer sandwich of foam and nylon conforms to the foot while cushioning it. It also fills up any small voids between boot and foot that compromise control.

Contact Sole. Keeps you on your feet, no matter how slippery the footing. The key is the self-cleaning tread. It's designed to squeeze out mud and dirt that compromise traction. In wet, slippery conditions, our new composite rubber provides maximum grip and durability.

Distributed by **Anso Pty Ltd**
Ph (03) 459 5111, Fax (03) 459 3450



MERRELL AIR-CUSHION
MID-SOLE

WILDFIRE

possible. Many Australian couples have wintered in Antarctica since Lynn and I did so at the Australian station, Mawson, in 1984. Couples have also wintered at the stations Casey and Davis.

In fact, being the first Australian couple in reality fairly minor as 'couples' have been wintering in Antarctica... [since] 1947...

Someone has done very little research before going to print... [or, apparently, before writing this letter as it refers to Wild no 54 which, of course, is this issue! Editor]

Warwick Williams
East Lindfield, NSW

Peacemeal review

'Smug contempt' has a new meaning. Smug contempt is when you think it's responsible to write to *Wild* (Wildfire, Wild no 53) recommending novice cross-country skiers go bush at Mt Ar buckle (or anywhere else in the snow) with no one in the party who can read a topographic map.

No, Mr Peace, it wasn't smug contempt I was feeling but genuine concern for beginners... It is a hard pick, but the most... foul of your droppings is on page 8 of your book *Ski-Touring in Victoria and NSW*. I quote:

The most popular type of outfit amongst XC skiers is the bib and brace, similar to that worn by downhillers, with a pair of light cotton pants underneath. Tracksuit pants over the top of soft cotton pants also work well...

Cotton may be adequate for Lygon Street, and dapper in the tropics, but it can be lethal in rainy, slushy, sleety conditions often found in Australian high country. Cotton does not hold warmth when wet. I have found day trippers (in mid-November) near death from cold wearing exactly what Mr Peace recommends...

John Hempton
Lyneham, ACT

Not up to standard

Please find enclosed my subscription renewal form and cheque for the magazine I so enjoy to receive each quarter.

What I really would like to compliment you on is the quality of the printing you are getting from York Press.

I have been a printer now for almost 34 years and have seen many magazines of varying standard, and this includes magazines for the printing trade, which, incidentally, do not come up to the standard you are getting...

Graeme Collins
Quirindi, NSW

I just wanted to say how impressed I was with your very prompt reply to my letter...

No wonder you won the 1993 Telecom & Victorian Government Small Business Award!

My only complaint is that *Wild* isn't published often enough...

Pam Longe
East Doncaster, Vic

Readers' letters are welcome (with sender's full name and address, for verification). A selection will be published in this column. Letters of less than 200 words are more likely to be printed. Write to the Editor, *Wild*, PO Box 415, Prahran, Vic 3181.

Serious Protection For Serious Fun

Arktikos

The integrity of Reflex and the uncompromising design and manufacture of Wilderness outdoor clothing are vividly expressed in this ultimate adventure garment.



Zip-in Capacity

All Wilderness insulation jackets zip directly into the Arktikos enabling greater warmth and comfort when the weather turns really ugly.

Dual Storm Flap

Front flaps seal twice to create a channel expelling any water that may penetrate.

Zipped Chest Pockets

The internal chest pockets keep valuables dry while maintaining easy access.

Metal Not Plastic

Wilderness metal domes do not puncture the body of the jacket at any point.



Tuckaway Hood
Extendable hood with captive hood cords, tucks completely away into its own collar adding stylish functionality.

Cargo Pockets

It's easy reaching for maps and equipment in two strategically placed chest pockets that zip shut with sturdy finger loops.

Factory Sealed Seams

All seams are factory seam sealed using the latest in seam sealing technology because any rainwear is only as good as its seams.



See the Arktikos at your local specialist outdoor retailer.
Or write to us at Macpac Wilderness Equipment Ltd, PO Box 8399, Christchurch, New Zealand for the new 1994 Wilderness Catalogue

WILDERNESS

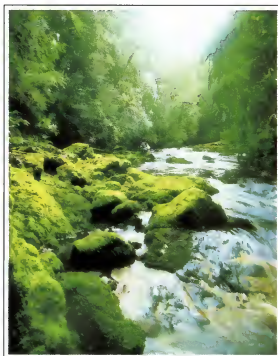
This land was made for walking.

It's no wonder that the Tasmanian wilderness has become the mecca for Australian bushwalkers. This unique area of awe-inspiring natural grandeur offers something for everyone, from short walks to points of scenic beauty to challenging five and six day treks.

Of course, there are many other adventures to enjoy such as the

exhilaration of rafting down wild rivers, or venturing deep into the wilderness on a four-wheel drive tour.

Pure, clear air, a relaxed and friendly lifestyle, superb natural produce and a fascinating history are just some of the other reasons you'll find Tasmania an island that was made for walking; the perfect place for your next holiday.



Bird River.

For further information contact your travel agent or nearest Tasmanian Travel Centre:

Melbourne (03) 206 7922 Sydney (02) 202 2022 Brisbane (07) 405 4122
Adelaide/Perth (08) 400 5522 Canberra(06) 209 2122

TASMANIA
AUSTRALIAN BEST HOLIDAY



You'll never be more comfortable

At last! A co-ordinated range of active wear designed and made in Australia for those who expect the best.



Long-sleeve
shirt \$79.95
Women's pants
\$79.95

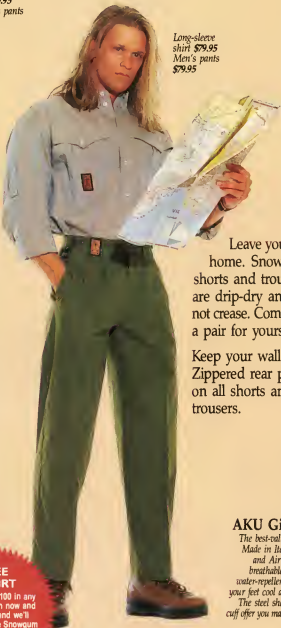


Action
shorts
\$49.95
Action
pants
\$69.95



FREE T-SHIRT

Spend over \$100 in any
store between now and
Christmas and we'll
give you a free Snowgum
T-shirt worth
\$25



Long-sleeve
shirt \$79.95
Men's pants
\$79.95

Short-sleeve
shirt \$69.95
in four
great colours
Action shorts
\$49.95



Long-sleeve
shirt \$79.95
in four
great colours
Men's shorts
\$59.95

Leave your iron at
home. Snowgum
shorts and trousers
are drip-dry and do
not crease. Come and try
a pair for yourself.

Keep your wallet safe.
Zippered rear pockets
on all shorts and
trousers.

AKU Gian Boots

The best-value boot around.
Made in Italy from leather
and Air 8000, a highly
breathable yet tough and
water-repellent fabric to keep
your feet cool and comfortable.
The steel shank and padded
cuff offer you maximum support.
Price \$169



Scout Outdoor Centre

QLD: Brisbane and Mail Order (07) 252 4745
NSW: Chatswood (02) 412 2113 Hurstville
(02) 580 7842 Newcastle (049) 29 3304 Parramatta
(02) 635 7715 Wagga Wagga (069) 21 2465
Mail Order (02) 799 9640 ACT: Braddon and
Mail Order (06) 257 2250 SA: Adelaide and
Mail Order (08) 223 5544 WA: Perth and
Mail Order (09) 321 5259 NT: Darwin and
Mail Order (089) 81 5553



VIC: Melbourne (03) 670 1177 Hawthorn
(03) 819 4100 Mitcham (03) 873 5061
Moorabbin (03) 555 7811
Ballarat (053) 31 3672
Bendigo (054) 43 8226
Geelong (052) 21 6618
Mail Order (03) 555 4663
TAS: Hobart (002) 31 0312
Mail Order (002) 34 3885

Also available from:

NSW: Mountain Designs, Sydney (02) 267 8238 Armidale Outdoors (067) 72 7744 Mountain
Designs, Katoomba (047) 82 5999 QLD: Adventure Equipment, Cairns (070) 31 2669
Maroochy Camping World, Maroochydhore (074) 43 3955
Adventure Camping Equipment, Townsville (077) 75 6116

For a free Outdoor equipment guide mail this coupon to
your nearest store or PO Box 128, Moorabbin, VIC 3189.

☐ Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Ms
Address _____
Postcode _____
Phone _____
First Name _____
Surname _____

IF YOU CAN'T SEE WHAT YOU'RE DOING IN THE DARK...



You need a **PETZL ZOOM**

- Adjustable elastic headband
- fits head or helmet
- Light tilts so you can see what you're doing, or where you're going
- Zoom focus for beam or spotlight
- Bezel twist off-on switch
- Water resistant tough design
- Stores its own spare bulb

Exclusively distributed in Australia by Spensen Pty Ltd (ACH 002 574987)
In Australia Ph: (02) 954 2004 Fax: (02) 954 2005
In New Zealand Ph: 01 434 9036 Fax: 01 434 9887 Mobile 021 30 2181

SNAP-IT™ BY SPYDERCO



1 HAND
OPEN



SpyderEdge

Light Weight
Zytel® handle

*When years of research
training and sweat come
down to one jump, optional
equipment is not just a
good idea, it's your life!*
Jeff Sobolick



G-2 Stainless
Steel Blade

Quick Deployment
Richard Snap

Non-Slip Kraton®
Interframe

Jeff Sobolick
is co-holder of the
highest hot air balloon
jump, has executed
the highest civilian
jump, and was the
organizer for Operation
Motherload. He and 20
other sky divers jumped
from a hot air balloon
during a single flight.

FOR YOUR NEAREST RETAILER CALL:
ZEN IMPORTS PTY LTD
Tel (02) 818 1955

G•SAKAI

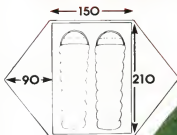


OUTDOOR COOKING UTILITY (CK200)

Available in either
SpyderEdge or Plain,
the 6A stainless steel
blade (16.5 cm) features
a finger choil for
positive control. This
outdoor cooking and
utility knife cuts
superbly. G. Sakai have
also fitted it with a
swivel belt-loop sheath
for easy carrying.

ZEN IMPORTS PTY LTD
P.O. Box 201, Rozelle,
NSW 2039
Ph: (02) 818 1955
Fax: (02) 810 8776

SIERRA DOME



\$479



NEW

IMPROVED DESIGN FEATURES

- Flame-retardant waterproof coatings
- Tent floor waterproofed to 6000 millimetres
- Tent fly-sheet waterproofed to 3000 millimetres
- Tent poles, 11 millimetres duralium 7001 T6 alloy

Design by Salewa (Sal-ee-wa) of Germany.

Polyester Flysheet . Polyester's high UV resistance (2-3 times that of nylon) means your tent will last longer with the added bonus of only half the stretch of nylon (giving better pitch and stability). The fly-sheet extends 'down to earth' to seal out wind-driven rain and snow. The fly can be pitched first in wet weather or by itself to provide a lightweight (2 kg) single-skin shelter for up to three or four people. Two closable vents (one in each vestibule) minimize condensation when cooking or when the fly is completely closed. All seams are factory seam-sealed for complete waterproofness.

Inner Tent has a genuine 'bath-tub' floor construction, lantern loops and handy storage pockets. Entrances on both sides have additional mosquito-net doors to ensure maximum 'flow thru' ventilation and provide a welcome sanctuary from annoying insects. The height of 115 cm allows two to sit up in comfort.

Two Vestibules. You no longer need to put up with gear cluttering your sleeping area; store it all, packs and boots included, in one vestibule. Use the other as a dry, roomy, well-ventilated cooking area. **Alloy Poles** are shock-corded for easy assembly. Strong and light, these poles fold down into 50 cm long sections that stow easily in any pack.

Lightweight. 3 kg (approx).



At an Intertrek store near you

QUEENSLAND

K2 BASE CAMP

140 Wickham Street, Fortitude Valley 4006. Phone (07) 854 1340

ADVENTURE CAMPING EQUIPMENT

11 Ross River Road, Townsville 4812. Phone (077) 75 6116

TORRE MOUNTAIN CRAFT

185 Mogill Road, Taringa 4068. Phone (07) 870 2699

NEW SOUTH WALES

MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT

401 Kent Street, Sydney 2000. Phone (02) 264 3146

MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT

66 Archer Street, Chatswood 2057. Phone (02) 419 6955

EASTWOOD CAMPING CENTRE

3 Trelawney Street, Eastwood 2122. Phone (02) 858 3833

SOUTHERN CROSS EQUIPMENT

156 Brunner Road, Adamstown 2289. Phone (049) 62 2345

BUSHCRAFT EQUIPMENT

29 Stewart Street, Wollongong 2500. Phone (042) 29 6748

THE OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE

518 Macaulay Street, Albury 2640. Phone (060) 21 5755

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

JURKIEWICZ ADVENTURE SPORTS

4 Oatley Court, Belconnen 2817. Phone (06) 253 2699

JURKIEWICZ ADVENTURE SPORTS

47 Wollongong Street, Fyshwick 2509. Phone (06) 280 6033

VICTORIA

THE WILDERNESS SHOP

1 Carrington Road, Box Hill 3128. Phone (03) 898 3742

OUTSPORTS

3408 Hawthorn Road, Caulfield South 3162. Phone (03) 523 5727

OUTSPORTS

36 Young Street, Frankston 3199. Phone (03) 783 2079

BOGONG

374 Little Bourke Street, Melbourne 3000. Phone (03) 600 0599

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WILDERNESS EQUIPMENT CLAREMONT

Bayview Centre, Cnr Stirling Hwy & Leura Ave 6010. Phone (09) 385 3711

TASMANIA

JOLLY SWAGMAN

107 Elizabeth Street, Hobart 7000. Phone (002) 34 3999



Outdoor Shops run by Outdoor People

AT MOUNTAIN DESIGNS GORE-TEX RAINWEAR IS GUARANTEED TO KEEP YOU DRY



Alto Stratus

In 1978 the Antarctic Division of Australia asked us to work on a design to replace their traditional canvas parka. We came up with the Stratus made from Gore-Tex fabric. The Stratus has always been a function first design. The Stratus trilogy evolved into a highly functional range of all weather jackets based on our END-USE philosophy.

The Stratus - The perfect above the snow-line, foul weather jacket. It is designed to allow dynamic movement even while wearing thick layers underneath. The 3 way adjustable hood is unequalled in weather-proof hood design.

The Stratus Women's - Enhanced though based on the



Women's Stratus

traditional Stratus jacket this is an extremely comfortable, wearable item of outdoor clothing for women. The Supplite Gore-Tex fabric is tough yet supple, with the fully weather-proof hood zipping neatly into the collar.

The Alto-Stratus - Here is a foul-weather jacket with the added function and appeal of a street-wear anorak. The extra pockets on the chest make it a great jacket for the traveller. The weather-proof hood zips into the collar which makes it an ideal jacket for those sunny, crisp days on the snow.

THE STRATUS TRILOGY SUITS THE SKI-TOURER, DOWN-HILL SKIER, THE ADVENTURE TRAVELLER AND ANYBODY WHO LOVES BEING OUT OF DOORS.



Gear for places you'd rather be...

GORE-TEX
Outdoor
Guaranteed To Keep You Dry™

Melbourne 377 Little Bourke St. (03) 670 3354 • Sydney 499 Kent St. (02) 267 3822 • Perth 862 Hay St. (09) 322 4774 •
Canberra 7 Loreburn St. Beckon (06) 247 74 88 • Cottesloe 31 Jarrad St. (09) 385 1689 • Brisbane 105 Albert St. (07) 221 6756
Katoomba 190 Katoomba St. (047) 82 5999 • Hawthorn 654 Glenferrie Rd. (03) 818 1544 • Adelaide 121 Grenfell St.
(08) 232 0690 • Morwell 20 Tarwin St. (051) 343 411

ROCKCLIMBING

Gramians and Mt Arapiles

INSTRUCTION

on a year-round basis. You know that you will receive personal service from the full-time professional who has extensive experience and an outstanding safety record.

REGULAR COURSES

on weekends and holidays for beginners, more advanced and lead climbers. Also straight abseiling courses.

GROUPS

Climbing/abseiling for adult parties, school camps and outdoor education groups.

PRIVATE GUIDING

by arrangement.

Established in 1982

Write for a brochure:

BASE CAMP & BEYOND

PO Box 37, Halls Gap, Vic 3381 or phone David Witham (053) 56 4300



Mountaincraft Torre

Specialists in quality

lightweight

Bushwalking

Trekking

Travel &

Cycling Gear.

Excellent stocks

of climbing &



abseiling

equipment.



Quality repair

& hire service

available.

Mail order & lay-by welcome.

185 Moggill Road,
Taringa, Qld 4068.

Ph (07) 870 2699 Fax (07) 870 3223

MOUNTAINEERING AUSTRALIA ♦ NEW ZEALAND

- ♦ **INTRODUCTION TO MOUNTAINEERING:** 4 days in Australia (Kosciusko NP) or New Zealand (Mount Cook NP)
- ♦ **ADVANCED & COMPREHENSIVE MOUNTAINEERING:** 6 & 10 days in New Zealand (Mount Cook National Park)
- ♦ **GUIDED EXPEDITIONS:** New Zealand Dec 94 - Jan 95, Europe's highest peaks July 95, Kilimanjaro (Heim Glacier) Aug 95
- ♦ **ROCKCLIMBING:** Blue Mountains and Australia wide, all year

high quality: UIAGM guiding standard

low ratio: max 2 clients rock and ice climbing

attractive prices: ring for detailed information

Thomas Schattovits (UIAGM Guide)

Lucas Trihey



THE DIAMOND CLIMBING SCHOOL

10 Apex Ave Mount Victoria NSW 2786

PHONE (047) 87 1480 OR FAX (047) 87 1442



Hours: Mon to Thurs: 9 am - 6 pm, Fri: 9 am - 9 pm, Sat - 9 am - 2 pm

SNOW COUNTRY SPORTS

115 Canterbury Road, Heathmont, 3135

Phone (03) 720 4647, Fax (03) 720 2538

ajays

For expert advice and the right price!

Fairydown

Proven in the world's extremes

BACK PACKS

Engineered to work in complete harmony.

To say they're strong is an understatement. To say that they're designed and engineered to work in complete harmony with the human body is nothing more than a statement of pure fact. And work they do. It's what makes Fairydown the obvious choice from bushwalking to mountaineering. Whatever you're doing, they'll certainly take a weight off your shoulders.

Everything rests on our Ergoline harness.

The Ergoline is centrally adjustable in your back length in mere seconds. Strategically located padding provides protection and support for back muscles. Even the crumpled hip-belt can be adjusted in 10 both ends and female physiological differences for maximum weight utilisation. Contoured shoulder pads fall around the neck and directly conform to individual body shapes for added support and comfort. Carryover back pads and an adjustable sternum strap stabilise the weight. Recreational weight distribution levers. And all adjustment hardware are easily accessible too.

Ergoline harness in two sizes (size 6-7 under 171 cm and size 8-10 over 170 cm). Easily accessible, centrally adjustable ladder-lock buckle.

Dak-densu 5-shaped shoulder pads offer a combination of support and comfort. Curve neatly around neck, over the shoulder and disappear under the arm. Won't dig in. No sore neck.

Adjustable sternum strap eliminated for added comfort.

Back padding protects spine and supports spinal muscles. Flares out with more contact on shoulder blades for better load distribution. Shoulder-strap webbing wraps around horizontal bar for unparallel strength.

Lumbar pad allows the load to be directly transferred down the back, supporting the spine's natural curve to encourage upright stance. The amount of foam can be varied to individual requirements.

Adjustable hip-belt system allows even load distribution over and around hips to stabilise weight.



TREKKER / Trekking, Travel

Double-entry pack top continued with front opening for easier access.

- Double compartment with rigid divider for more flexibility when packing.
- Removable front panel and top lid, top lid or day pack in just seconds.
- Fully adjustable Ergoline harness to perfectly fit a wide range of back lengths.
- Maximum load-shed cover.
- Adjustable hip-belt and lumbar pad for added stability and even load transfer onto the pelvic area.
- Hide-away harness cover converts back pack into a steel suitcase without straps.
- Extensible lid incorporates handy map pockets and key-ring retainer for convenient storage.
- Sculptured compression-wrap system to consolidate load and increase stability.
- Padded side carry handle to avoid it cutting into your palm.
- Available in standard size harness only.

Capacity	Standard 70 litres	Fabric	12 oz vat-dyed, proofed canvas
Weight	12 kg		
Harness	Fully adjustable	Colour	Purple/Indigo

Fairydown has an extensive range of Tents, Backpacks, Sleeping-bags, Clothing and Accessories available from:

TASMANIA

Country Comfort
Hobart (002) 34 7877
Mountain Creek Great
Outdoor Centre
Hobart (002) 34 4396
Snowgum
Hobart (002) 34 3885

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Scout Outdoor Centre
Adelaide (08) 223 5944

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Carrilga Great Outdoor Centre
Victoria Park (08) 361 8281
Scout Outdoor Centre
West Perth (09) 321 5259

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Scout Outdoor Centre
Darwin (089) 41 5553

QUEENSLAND

Scout Outdoor Centre
Brisbane (07) 252 4745
Tentworld's Great Outdoor Centre
Brisbane (07) 267 5102
Adventure Equipment
Cairns (070) 31 2669

ACT

CSE Great Outdoor Centre
Phillip (06) 282 3434
Scout Outdoor Centre
Braidwood (06) 257 2259

NEW SOUTH WALES

Boots Great Outdoor Centre
Lidcombe (02) 647 1488
Prospect (02) 636 8566
Bourke (040) 65 3588
Coast Camping Great
Outdoor Centre
Newcastle (049) 59 4460
Scout Outdoor Centre
Cherrywood (02) 412 2113
Hurstville (02) 550 7242
Parramatta (02) 635 7715
Newcastle (043) 59 5395
Wagga Wagga (049) 21 2466
Southern Cross Equipment
Horsley (02) 478 5566
Sydney (02) 961 3405

VICTORIA

Ajays
Heathmont (03) 720 4647
Canoea Piss
Leew (03) 817 9394
The Compleat Bushman
Moonee Ponds (03) 336 1301
Eastern Mountain Centre
Hawthorn (03) 862 7229
Snowgum
Hewthorne (03) 819 4110
Melbourne (03) 670 1177
Murchison (03) 673 5061
Moonshine (03) 358 7011
Ballarat (03) 31 3678
Bendigo (054) 43 8265
Geelong (062) 21 6618

For your free comprehensive catalogue on Fairydown and Adventure Plus
write to Sunshine Ellis Pty Ltd, 55 Vore St, Silverwater, NSW 2141

Name _____
Address _____
Postcode _____



FREE YOUR FEET

THE TERRADACTYL.
CREATED BY MARK THATCHER,
GRAND CANYON RIVER GUIDE.
HIGH TRACTION DINO-GRIP SOLE
WITH SHOC PAD HEEL CUSHION.
LIGHT ENOUGH TO FLY.

FREE YOUR FEET.
YOUR MIND WILL FOLLOW.

Teva
THE SPORT SANDAL.

OUTDOOR AGENCIES
PH 02/517 1155
FAX 02/550 2969

©1994 TEVA, FLAGSTAFF, AZ

Epoch 2

Extreme

Reinforced stress
points

Seam-sealed tub
floor

Easton aluminium
poles

Double entry
inset door screen

A superbly engineered 4 Season Tent.

The first in a new range of tents, the EPOCH 2 EXTREME is a truly refined four-season free-standing tent. The design of the EPOCH 2 was chosen for its incredible stability and strength that is far superior to that of tunnel tents.

Like all other MONT products, this tent has been constructed from only the best materials and components. Designed as a two-person tent with generous floor dimensions, it has a high ceiling, waterproof seam-sealed fly, double entry and large storage vestibule.

Write to us now for your free product catalogue: Mont Catalogues, PO Box 995 Queanbeyan NSW 2620.

**ADVENTURE
MONT
EQUIPMENT**

The Australian Company

RACKS OFF RAIN



reated in the United Kingdom where they know all about how to keep out rain, snow, sleet and mud.

Granger's wide range of waterproof treatments has been researched and tested for over 55 years in some of the harshest conditions on earth, so you can be certain they work, and work well.

Granger's have products which waterproof everything from tents to packs, all types of shoes and all fabrics. Granger's Superpruf is suitable for use on fabrics such as *GORE-TEX without affecting performance. And with Granger's you can even waterproof your maps.

Check out the full range at your favourite outdoors store today and the next time you venture out in the wet—stay dry!



*GORE-TEX is a registered trade mark W.L. Gore and Associates Inc.

For further information please contact your local outdoors store or call:

Ruscac Supplies Pty Ltd

A.C.N. 003 074 495

Importers/Distributors of Equipment for Adventure

PO Box 365, South Hurstville, NSW 2221
Telephone: (02) 580 7111 Fax: (02) 580 7160

SYDNEY SUPERSTORE

Visit our Superstore at 477 Kent Street opposite the YHA Backpackers' Headquarters.

- 2 big levels
- More equipment
- Open 7 days
- The ultimate outdoor Superstore

Get your **FREE** accessory with each purchase of: rucksacks, sleeping-bags, Therm-a-Rest, Trangia, Maglite.

(No other offers apply.
Offer closes 30/6/94.)



Southern Cross Equipment

447 Kent Street Sydney (Opposite YHA) Phone: 261 3435

VISIT
OUR NEWCASTLE
SUPERSTORE
156 Brunker Rd
Adamstown

- Travel
- Bushwalking
- Canoeing
- Camping
- 4WD accessories
- Hire gear

LEARN ABSEILING

EXPERIENCE THE BEAUTY OF THE SOUTH COAST

Our training courses run weekends and school holidays at the top of Mt Keira, Wollongong—with its sheer sandstone cliffs in the midst of lush rain forest and over 200 climbs and views that are among the most spectacular in Australia—overlooking the coastline from Stanwell Park to Kiama.

Its easy access makes it the top spot. Close to Sydney and convenient to the Illawarra. Make it an exciting family fun day or a part of your south-coast visit. Mt Keira offers first-class conveniences, picnic areas, kiosk and parking.

LEARN ABSEILING ON OUR FULL-DAY BASIC COURSE \$60

You will learn more on our courses and at the same time have the most thrilling day of your life. The basic abseil course gives you the key to join our climbing and advanced abseil courses and

'THE REAL ADVENTURES'

A wide range of the best of the Blue Mountains canyons and the most spectacular abseil expeditions weekly.

- Generous group bookings for two or more on all courses and adventures.
- On all courses you are supplied with professional instructors and guides, healthy lunches, the most modern equipment available and course certificate.



(02) 605 9840

Write or call us for your information package or bookings

6 Luff Place
Ingleburn 2565

PATAGONIA® AND GORE™ TECHNOLOGY COMBINE TO MAKE THE BEST SHELLS ON THE MARKET TODAY

Super Alpine/Super Pluma Gear

For a free 120-page catalogue of our complete line of technical clothing, layering systems and sportswear, call

1-800-066-625

or visit our new store in Australia at

493 Kent St., Sydney

(OPEN OCTOBER 20, 1994)

patagonia®

*Spirited, Functional Clothes
for the Outdoors*

Photo: ACE KYALE © Patagonia, Inc. 1994

Gore™ Technology is a service mark of W.L. Gore & Associates

Home on the Range

[or the tundra, or the rain forest,
or the beach, or the mountains]

Wherever you're going and whatever you're doing in the great outdoors, there's a compact, lightweight, guaranteed tough **Walrus** tent that you can call home each night.

Distributed by:
Grant Minervini Agencies Pty Ltd
PO Box 209, Welland, SA 5007
Phone: (08) 346 6061 Fax: (08) 340 0675



walrus™
*Fast, strong,
beautiful*

EAST GIPPSLAND

Science Exploration Adventure
for 17-25-year-olds
12 Dec 94-12 Jan 95

*Expedition
Tingaringy*



Spend your summer as part of a scientific expedition, collecting data on behalf of the Department of Conservation & Natural Resources. No experience necessary. Fee applicable.

Send to:
ANZSES Australian and
New Zealand Scientific
Exploration Society Inc
PO Box 174
Albert Park, Vic 3206
Phone (03) 690 5455
Fax (03) 690 0151



Australian and
New Zealand
Scientific Exploration
Society Inc

YES! I would like to help collect data for the preservation of the unique East Gippsland National Parks. Please send me more details.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PIC _____

Tick for details of other expeditions ☐

FROM TIBET!

★ Follow the Everest climb of **Mallory and Irvine** (1924) to the pre-War Camp III (6400 m/21,000').

★ **Shatter your altitude record** on the objectively safe and technically easy peak **LHAKPA RI** (7045 m/23,000').

★ Travel overland from **LHASA to KATHMANDU** via the highest road in the world, visiting **TIBET'S** greatest cultural sites, including the **POTALA**.

★ All this on **ONE** trip!

SUMMITS

Fax (002) 27 9428

Phone (002) 27 9428

GPO Box 1159, Hobart 7001

K2 BASE CAMP

GEARED FOR ADVENTURE



Mt Cook National Park.
Photo: Alex McConnell

SEND
FOR FREE
BROCHURE

NAME.....
ADDRESS.....

POSTCODE.....

PHONE.....



I AM INTERESTED
IN (PLEASE TICK):

- ☐ PACKS ☐ TENTS ☐ BOOTS
☐ SLEEPING BAGS ☐ CLOTHING
☐ XC SKIING ☐ CLIMBING

140 WICKHAM STREET
BRISBANE QLD 4006
TELEPHONE 07 854 1340
FACSIMILE 07 854 1281



Lightweight Comfort



Granite Tors at dawn, Rams Head Range, Mt Kosciuszko National Park, NSW

At One Planet we design for function. Our designs are a natural extension of your activity, enhancing, not restricting. So it's natural that our designs are the lightest, most comfortable available. Why weigh yourself down with gear offering less comfort?



J&H Adventure Wear
PO Box 443, Queanbeyan,
NSW 2620, **Australia**
Phone (06) 299 1788
Fax (06) 297 5377

J&H Adventure Wear
PO Box 22-121
Christchurch, **New Zealand**
Phone (03) 366 6688
Fax (03) 365 1616

Form follows function.

One Planet Down sleeping bags and Gore-Tex rainwear - for the ultimate in lightweight comfort.

Please send me my free One Planet Buyers Guide:

For information on listing your business in this regular feature, please contact Wild Publications Pty Ltd, PO Box 415, Prahran, Vic 3181. Phone (03) 826 8482, fax (03) 826 3787.

Suppliers

National Mail-order

Acclimatised Modular Climbing Walls
PO Box 338
Ararat Vic 3377
Ph (053) 56 6309

Adventure Books
3 Maple St
Maleny Qld 4552
Ph (074) 99 9977

Alpsport
1045 Victoria Rd
West Ryde NSW 2114
Ph 858 5844 or 008 803 680

Damart Thermacly
5 Campbell St
Artarmon NSW 2064
Ph 372 1122 or 008 242 996

Eastern Mountain Centre
401 Riversdale Rd
Camberwell Vic 3123
Ph (03) 882 7229

Kathmandu Mail-order
PO Box 1191
Collingwood Vic 3066
Ph 419 1868 or 008 333 484

K2 Base Camp
140 Wickham St
Fortitude Valley Qld 4006
Ph (077) 854 1340

Mountain Equipment Pty Ltd
491 Kent St
Sydney NSW 2000
Fax (02) 264 2645

On Rope
56 Blackshaw Ave
Mortdale NSW 2223
Ph (02) 580 6420

Paddy Pallin Mail-order
360 Little Bourke St
Melbourne Vic 3000
Ph 670 9485 or 1 800 805 398

Patagonia
CPO Box 660
Sydney NSW 2001
Ph 290 2122 or 1 800 066 625

Recreational Fabrics
PO Box 338
Ararat Vic 3377
Ph (053) 56 6309

Redman Textiles
PO Box 338
Ararat Vic 3377
Ph (053) 56 6309

Scout Outdoor Centre
PO Box 878
Ashfield NSW 2134
(02) 799 9640

Snowgum
PO Box 128
Moorabbin Vic 3189
Ph (03) 555 4663

The Wilderness Society
National Merchandising
7-9 Hosier Lane
Melbourne Vic 3000
Ph 650 6460 or 008 035 354

Wild Publications Pty Ltd
PO Box 415
Prahran Vic 3181
Ph (03) 826 8483

Wildports
PO Box Q302
Sydney NSW 2000
Ph 264 2095 or 008 812 910

Australian Capital Territory

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop DG23B
Canberra Centre
Canberra 2600
Ph (06) 257 3035

Barbeques Galore Camping
76 Wollongong St
Fishwick 2609
Ph (06) 280 4187

CSE Camping & Ski
Equipment Pty Ltd
90 Prospect Crt
Phillip 2606
Ph (06) 282 3424

CSE Camping & Ski
Equipment Pty Ltd
Shop 29
Hornsworld Centre
Tuggeranong 2900
Ph (06) 293 1435

Jurkiewicz Adventure Sports
4 Outlet Cntr
Belconnen 2617
Ph (06) 253 2699

Jurkiewicz Adventure Sports
47 Wollongong St
Fishwick 2609
Ph (06) 280 6033

Kathmandu Pty Ltd
Canberra Centre
Facing on to City Walk
Canberra 2600
Ph (06) 257 5926

Mountain Designs
7 Lonsdale St
Braddon 2601
Ph (06) 247 4888

Paddy Pallin
11 Lonsdale St
Braddon 2601
Ph (06) 257 3883

Scout Outdoor Centre
26 Mort St
Braddon 2601
Ph (06) 257 2250

The Wilderness Shop
16 Garesma Pl
Canberra 2601
Ph (06) 249 8011

New South Wales

Adventure Shop
69 Liverpool St
Sydney 2000
Ph (02) 261 1959

All Camping Supplies
2A Railway Pde
Thorntonfield 2120
Ph (02) 451 0473

Alpsport
Ski and Camping Centre
1045 Victoria Rd
West Ryde 2114
Ph 858 5844 or 008 803 680

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop 496
Castle Towers Shopping
Centre
Castle St
Castle Hill 2154
Ph (02) 899 1788

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop 208
Charlton Square
30 Pearson St
Charlton 2290
Ph (049) 43 4777

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop 420
Westfield Shopping Town
Chatswood 2067
Ph (02) 419 5393

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop 429
Harrisburys
Darling Harbour 2000
Ph (02) 212 6539

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop 158
Erina Fair
Terrigal Dve
Erina 2250
Ph (043) 65 4274

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop 1037
Westfield Shopping Town
Miranda 2228
Ph (02) 524 7560

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop 34, Pitt St level
Centrepoint
100 Market St
Sydney 2000
Ph (02) 231 5055

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop 122
1st Floor (J Block)
Warringah Mall 2100
Ph (02) 938 1815

Barbeques Galore Camping
348 Hume Hwy
Bankstown 2203
Ph (02) 707 3224

Barbeques Galore Camping
Blacktown Mega Centre
Blacktown &
Bungarrabee Rds
Blacktown 2148
Ph (02) 831 4666

Barbeques Galore Camping
624 Pittwater Rd
Brookvale 2100
Ph (02) 905 0033

Barbeques Galore Camping
125 Parramatta Rd
Camperdown 2050
Ph (02) 516 5929

Barbeques Galore Camping
Cnr Henry & Lawson Sts
Penrith 2750
Ph (047) 21 2272

Bushcraft Equipment
29 Stewart St
Wollongong 2500
Ph (042) 29 6748

Canoe Specialists
The Sppt
Mosman 2088
Ph (02) 969 4590

Coast Camping Centre
27 Lambton Rd
Broadmeadow 2292
Ph (049) 69 4460

Damart Thermacly
58 Clarence St
Sydney 2000
Ph (02) 299 2366

D B Stuff Pty Ltd
PO Box 52
Berowra 2081
Ph (02) 457 9798

Eastwood Camping Centre
3 Trelawney St
Eastwood 2122
Ph (02) 858 3833

Great Outdoors Centre
Pty Ltd
80 Parramatta Rd
Lidcombe 2141
Ph (02) 647 1488

Kathmandu Pty Ltd
Shop 34A
Town Hall Arcade
Cnr Kent & Bathurst Sts
Sydney 2000
Ph (02) 261 8901

Kinetix Sports Clothing
43 Adams Ave
Malabar 2036
Ph (02) 311 2948

Mountain Designs
190 Katoomba St
Katoomba 2780
Ph (047) 82 5999

Mountain Designs
499 Kent St
Sydney 2000
Ph (02) 267 3822

Mountain Equipment Pty Ltd
66 Archer St
Chatswood 2067
Ph (02) 419 6955

Mountain Equipment Pty Ltd
491 Kent St
Sydney 2000
Ph (02) 264 5888

New Anderson Maps
(Wholesale)
30 Fawcett St
Ryde 2112
Ph (02) 878 2809

On Rope
56 Blackshaw Ave
Mortdale 2223
Ph (02) 580 6420

Paddy Pallin
Opposite Thredbo turn-off
Jindabyne 2627
Ph (064) 56 2922

Paddy Pallin
527 Kingsway
Miranda 2228
Ph (02) 525 6829

Paddy Pallin
507 Kent St
Sydney 2000
Ph (02) 264 2685

Rex Map Centres
388 Pacific Hwy
Lane Cove 2066
Ph (02) 428 3566

Rockcraft
182 Katoomba St
Katoomba 2780
Ph (047) 82 2014

Scout Outdoor Centre
3 Spring St
Chatswood 2067
Ph (02) 412 2113

Scout Outdoor Centre
1 Carrington Ave
Hurstville 2220
Ph (02) 580 7842

Scout Outdoor Centre
516 Hunter St
Newcastle 2300
Ph (049) 29 3304

Scout Outdoor Centre
73 Macquarie St
Parramatta 2150
Ph (02) 635 7715

Scout Outdoor Centre
38 Tompson St
Wagga Wagga 2650
Ph (069) 21 2465

Single Rope Technique
9 Nelson Ave
Paddystown 2212
Ph (02) 796 3455

Southern Cross Equipment
Pty Ltd
18 Hunter St
Hornsby 2077
Ph (02) 477 5467

Southern Cross Equipment
Pty Ltd
156 Brunker St
Newcastle 2300
Ph (049) 62 2345

Southern Cross Equipment
Pty Ltd
447 Kent St
Sydney 2000
Ph (02) 261 3435

Summit Gear
(In laneway)
88 Katoomba St
Katoomba 2780
Ph (047) 82 3467

The Outdoor Experience
518 Macaulay St
Albury 2640
Ph (060) 21 5755

The Wilderness Shop
59 Hunter St
Newcastle 2300
Ph (049) 26 3909

The Wilderness Shop
92 Liverpool St
Sydney 2000
Ph (02) 267 7525

The Wilderness Shop
133 Keira St
Wollongong 2500
Ph (042) 26 2530

Wilderness Sports
Shop 7
Nuggets Crossing
Jindabyne 2627
Ph (064) 56 2966

Wildports
327 Sussex St
Sydney 2000
Ph 264 2095 or 008 812 910

Northern Territory

Adventure Equipment
Darwin
41 Cavenagh St
Darwin 0800
Ph (089) 41 0019

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop 130
Casuarina Shopping Square
247 Trower Rd
Casuarina 0810
Ph (089) 45 4696

NT General Stores Pty Ltd
42 Cavenagh St
Darwin 0800
Ph (089) 81 8242

Scout Outdoor Centre
55 Ross Smith Ave
Darwin 0800
Ph (089) 81 5553

Queensland

Adventure Camping
Equipment
11 Ross River Rd
Townsville 4812
Ph (077) 75 6116

Adventure Equipment Cairns
69 Grafton St
Cairns 4870
Ph (077) 31 2669

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop 248
Myer Centre
Queen St
Brisbane 4000
Ph (07) 220 0341

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop 314
Pacific Fair
Hosker Blvd
Broadbeach 4218
Ph (075) 72 0077

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop 16
Orchard Plaza
Lake St
Cairns 4870
Ph (07) 41 2422

Barbeques Galore Camping
18 Ipswich Rd
Woolloomah 4102
Ph (07) 391 8077

Direct Camping & Outdoor
142 Albert St
Brisbane 4000
Ph (07) 221 4476

Jim the Backpacker
138 Wickham St
Fortitude Valley 4006
Ph (07) 252 4408

Kathmandu Pty Ltd
144 Wickham St
Fortitude Valley 4006
Ph (07) 252 8054

K2 Base Camp
140 Wickham St
Fortitude Valley 4006
Ph (07) 854 1340

Mountain Designs
103 Albert St
Brisbane 4000
Ph (07) 221 6756

Nerang Disposals Camping
& Outdoors Store
6 Spencer Rd
Nerang 4211
Ph (075) 96 4434

Outback Billy's
Kurtum Dve
Burling 4220
Ph (075) 35 3955

Outback Billy's Camping
Warehouse Pty Ltd
Cnr Ferry Rd
& Minnie St
Southport 4215
Ph (075) 32 8888

Sahara Adventure Wear
4 Shields St
Cairns 4870
Ph (070) 31 1312

Scout Outdoor Centre
132 Wickham St
Fortitude Valley 4006
Ph (07) 252 4745

The Wilderness Shop
97 Albert St
Brisbane 4000
Ph (07) 229 4178

Torre Mountain Craft Pty Ltd
185 Moggi Rd
Taringa 4068
Ph (07) 870 2699

South Australia

Annapurna Outdoor Shop
210 Rundle St
Adelaide 5000
Ph (08) 223 4633

Aussie Disposals
119 Pirie St
Adelaide 5000
Ph (08) 224 0388

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop 3.03
Myer Centre
Rundle Mall
Adelaide 5000
Ph (08) 211 7700

Barbeques Galore Camping
41 Anzac Hwy
Kewick 5035
Ph (08) 297 6322

Canoe Sport Pty Ltd
26 Eliza Pl
Panorama 5041
Ph (08) 374 3040

Canoes Plus
30 Avenue Rd
Highgate 5063
Ph (08) 272 9998

Flinders Camping
187 Rundle St
Adelaide 5000
Ph (08) 223 1913

Grundy's Shoe Store
186 Rundle St
Adelaide 5000
Ph (08) 223 4524

Grundy's Shoe Store
107 Jetty Rd
Glenelg 5045
Ph (08) 376 0233

Mountain Designs
121 Grenfell St
Adelaide 5000
Ph (08) 232 0690

Paddy Pollin
228 Rundle St
Adelaide 5000
Ph (08) 232 3155

Scout Outdoor Centre
192 Rundle St
Adelaide 5000
Ph (08) 223 5544

The Wilderness Shop
44 Grote St
Adelaide 5000
Ph (08) 231 0625

Tasmania

Allgoos Pty Ltd
360 Main Rd
Glenorchy 7010
Ph (002) 73 2933

Allgoos Pty Ltd
71 York St
Launceston 7250
Ph (003) 31 3644

Australian Geographic Shop
63 Elizabeth St
Hobart 7000
Ph (002) 34 1110

Country Comfort
104 Elizabeth St
Hobart 7000
Ph (002) 34 7877

Jolly Swagman
107 Elizabeth St
Hobart 7000
Ph (002) 34 3999

Mountain Creek Outdoors
71 Murray St
Hobart 7000
Ph (002) 34 4395

Paddy Pollin
76 Elizabeth St
Hobart 7000
Ph (002) 31 0777

Scout Outdoor Centre
110 George St
Launceston 7250
Ph (003) 31 4240

Snowgum
107 Murray St
Hobart 7000
Ph (002) 34 3885

The Wilderness Shop
174 Charles St
Launceston 7250
Ph (003) 34 2499

Victoria

Aiking Equipment
Factory 3
313 Arden St
Flemington 3031
Ph (03) 372 2555

Ajays Snow Country Sports
115 Canterbury Rd
Heathmont 3135
Ph (03) 720 4647

Aussie Disposals
Head Office Retail Sales
South Gippsland Hwy
Dandenong 3175
Ph (03) 791 8999

Aussie Disposals
24 Beach St
Frankston 3199
Ph (03) 783 3321

Aussie Disposals
283 Elizabeth St
Melbourne 3000
Ph (03) 670 4057

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop 407
Chadstone Shopping Centre
Dandenong Rd
Chadstone 3148
Ph (03) 563 0332

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop 9
Galleria Shopping Plaza
Cnr Elizabeth &
Little Collins Sts
Melbourne 3000
Ph (03) 670 3813

Barbeques Galore Camping
377 Lonsdale St
Dandenong 3175
Ph (03) 793 2711

Barbeques Galore Camping
313 Bridge Rd
Richmond 3121
Ph (03) 429 4455

Barbeques Galore Camping
90-101 Maroonah Hwy
Ringwood 3134
Ph (03) 870 8366

Barbeques Galore Camping
170 Settlement Rd
Thornastown 3074
Ph (03) 464 0011

Bogong
374 Little Bourke St
Melbourne 3000
Ph (03) 600 0599

Bright Disposals
& Outdoor Centre
9 Ireland St
Bright 3741
Ph (057) 55 1818

Bunyip Boot Company
PO Box 70
Abbotsford 3067
Ph (03) 417 6992

Canoes Plus Pty Ltd
140 Cotnam Rd
Kew 3101
Ph (03) 817 5934

Damart Thermolacetyl
399 Elizabeth St
Melbourne 3000
Ph (03) 326 5517

Department of Conservation
& Natural Resources
Ground Floor
250 Victoria Pde
Melbourne 3002
Ph (03) 412 4795

Eastern Mountain Centre
401 Riversdale Rd
Camberwell Junction 3123
Ph (03) 882 2229

Greens Environment
& Community Bookshop
247 Flinders Lne
Melbourne 3000
Ph (03) 654 4367

Highpoint Camping
& Disposals
Shops 7 & 8
Highpoint City
Rosamond Rd
Maribyrnong 3032
Ph (03) 318 6758

K Foam Mountain Designs
18 Tarwin St
Morwell 3640
Ph (051) 34 3411

Kathmandu Pty Ltd
13 Market St
Box Hill 3128
Ph (03) 890 1130

Kathmandu Pty Ltd
373 Little Bourke St
Melbourne 3000
Ph (03) 642 1942

Kathmandu Pty Ltd
161 Smith St
Fitzroy 3065
Ph 419 1868 or 008 333 484

Melbourne Map Centre
740 Waverley Rd
Chadstone 3148
Ph (03) 569 5472

Mountain Designs
654 Glenferrie Rd
Hawthorn 3122
Ph (03) 818 1544

Mountain Designs
377 Little Bourke St
Melbourne 3000
Ph (03) 670 3354

Mountain Sports Wodonga
25 South St
Wodonga 3690
Ph (060) 24 5488

Outgear International Pty Ltd
11 Mephan St
Footscray 3011
Ph (03) 318 3244

Outsports
340B Hawthorn Rd
Caulfield South 3162
Ph (03) 523 5727

Outsports
36 Young St
Frankston 3199
Ph (03) 783 2079

Paddy Pollin
8 Market St
Box Hill 3128
Ph (03) 898 8566

Paddy Pollin
360 Little Bourke St
Melbourne 3000
Ph (03) 670 4845

Platypus Outdoors
385 Little Bourke St
Melbourne 3000
Ph (03) 602 4303

Remote Equipment Repairs
2nd Floor
377 Little Bourke St
Melbourne 3000
Ph (03) 670 2586

Sam Bear Outdoor Centre
225 Russell St
Melbourne 3000
Ph (03) 663 2191

Scout Outdoor Centre
880 Nepean Hwy
Moorabbin 3189
Ph (03) 555 7811

Snowgum
403 Sturt St
Ballarat 3350
Ph (053) 31 3672

Snowgum
79 Mitchell St
Bendigo 3550
Ph (054) 43 8226

Snowgum
172 Moorabool St
Geelong 3220
Ph (052) 21 6618

Snowgum
644 Glenferrie Rd
Hawthorn 3122
Ph (03) 819 4100

Snowgum
360 Lonsdale St
Melbourne 3000
Ph (03) 670 1177

Snowgum
523 Whitehorse Rd
Mitcham 3132
Ph (03) 873 5061

Snowgum
880 Nepean Hwy
Moorabbin 3189
Ph (03) 555 7811

Strzelecki Camping
& Outdoor Pty Ltd
Shop 8
76 Smith St
Warragul 3820
Ph (056) 22 3350

The Wilderness Shop Pty Ltd
1 Carrington Rd
Box Hill 3128
Ph (03) 898 3742

Western Australia

Australian Geographic Shop
Shop 13
Forrest Chase
Murray Street Mall
Perth 6000
Ph (09) 421 1781

Cargills Holiday Equipment
PO Box 138
Victoria Park 6100
Ph (09) 361 9321

Mountain Designs
31 Jarrod St
Cottesloe 6011
Ph (09) 385 1689

Mountain Designs
862 Hay St
Perth 6000
Ph (09) 322 4774

Paddy Pollin
915 Hay St
Perth 6000
Ph (09) 321 2666

Scout Outdoor Centre
581 Murray St
West Perth 6005
Ph (09) 321 5259

Wilderness Equipment
Claremont
Bayview Centre
Cnr Stirling Hwy
& Leura Ave
Claremont 6010
Ph (09) 385 3711

New Zealand

Canoes Plus
647A Tremain St
Palmerston North
Ph 64 63 555 3853

Kathmandu Pty Ltd
350 Queen St
Cnr Queen & Rutland Sts
Auckland
Ph 64 9 309 4615

Kathmandu Pty Ltd
235 High St
Christchurch
Ph 64 3 66 7148

Kathmandu Pty Ltd
117 Lambton Quay
Wellington
Ph 64 4 472 0673

Hong Kong

Grade VI Alpine Equipment
& Services
1st Floor
Lee Kong Commercial
Building
115 Wooning St
Yau Ma Tei
Kowloon
Ph 852 782 0200

Mountain Services
International Ltd
Shop 106
199 Des Voeux Rd
Central
Ph 852 541 8876

Adventure activities

New South Wales

Australian Andean
Adventures
49 Market St
Sydney 2000
Ph (02) 264 6397

Australian School of Mountaineering
182 Katoomba St
Katoomba 2780
Ph (047) 82 2014

Blue Mountains
Adventure Company
190 Katoomba St
Katoomba 2780
Ph (047) 82 1271

Blue Mountains Rockports
PO Box 144
Glenbrook 2773
Ph (047) 53 6618

High 'n Wild
3/72 Main St
Katoomba 2780
Ph (047) 82 6224

Kosciusko Adventures
Private Mail Bag no 5
Jindabyne 2627
Ph (084) 56 2922

Magik Mountain
Himalayan Adventures
PO Box 40
Hazelbrook 2779
Ph (047) 58 7421

Mountain Spots
6 Luff Pl
Nesqueh 2565
Ph (02) 405 9840

Myall Lakes Mountain Bike
& Canoe Touring Adventures
PO Box 141
Tate Gardens 2324
Ph (049) 97 0113

Onda Travel
791 King George's Rd
South Hurstville 2221
Ph (02) 947 2155

Outland Expeditions Pty Ltd
PO Box 403
Strathfield 2135
Ph (02) 746 8025

Outward Bound
GPO Box 4213
Sydney 2001
Ph 285 2695 or 088 267 999

Warrigal Adventure
200A Cameron St
Wauchope 2446
Ph (065) 85 2404

Wilderness First Aid
Consultants
PO Box 165
Jindabyne 2627
Ph (064) 56 1601

Wilderness Sports
Shop
Nuggets Crossing
Jindabyne 2627
Ph (064) 56 2966

Wildwise Adventures
for Women
PO Box 299
Darlinghurst 2010
Ph (02) 360 2099

Northern Territory

Willis's Walkabouts
12 Carrington St
Milliner 0810
Ph (089) 85 2134

Queensland

InterNATIONAL PARKtours
Pty Ltd (Lic no 129)
c/- Birra Burre Lodge
Beechmont
via Nerang 4211
Ph (07) 33 3583

Jungle Tours & Trekking
Australia Pty Ltd
71 Morehead St
Cairns 4870
Ph (07) 35 4650

Rockclimbing School
of Queensland
PO Box 84
Anerley 4103
Ph (07) 891 6772

Trek Hinchinbrook Island
PO Box 43
Lucinda 4850
Ph (07) 77 78307

South Australia

Ecotrek
PO Box 4
Kangarilla 5157
Ph (08) 383 7198

Peregrine Travel
Scout Outdoor Centre
192 Rundle St
Adelaide 5000
Ph (08) 223 5905

Thor Adventure Travel
228 Rundle St
Adelaide 5000
Ph (08) 232 3155

Tasmania

Craclair Tours
PO Box 516
Devonport 7310
Ph (004) 24 7830

Maxwell's Cradle Mtn-Lake
St Clair Shuttle Bus Services
Wilmut 7310
Ph (004) 92 1431

Rafting Tasmania

63 Channel Hwy
Tararua 7053
Ph (002) 27 9516

Tasair Pty Ltd
Cambridge Airport
Cambridge 7170
Ph (002) 48 5088

Tasmanian Expeditions
110 George St
Launceston 7250
Ph 34 3477 or 008 030 230

Tasmanian Highland Tours
PO Box 168
La Trobe 7307
Ph (004) 26 3912

Wandering Albatross Rafting
& Tour Guiding Services
PO Box 10
Sandy Bay 7005
Ph (002) 24 1577

Victoria

Adventure Plus
Mountaineering and
Rockclimbing
PO Box 153
Nattimuk 3409
Ph (053) 87 1530

Australian and New Zealand
Scientific Exploration Society
PO Box 174
Albert Park 3206
Ph (03) 690 5455

Bogong Jack Adventures
PO Box 221
Oxley 3678
Ph (057) 27 3382

Climbing Company, The
PO Box 166
Nattimuk 3409
Ph (053) 87 1329

Jojo Mountain Adventures
Pty Ltd
PO Box 571
Elsternwick 3185
Ph (03) 360 9778

Kaykaze Recreation
& Adventure Consultants
GPO Box 141B
Melbourne 3001
Ph (03) 416 2433

Off the Edge
Abseiling Adventures
6 Skyline Drive
Glebeville 3437
Ph 015 338 683

Peregrine Adventures Pty Ltd
2nd Floor
258 Lonsdale St
Melbourne 3000
Ph (03) 663 8611

Snowy River Expeditions
PO Box 3885
Melbourne 3001
Ph (03) 55 9353

The Hardrock Climbing
Company Pty Ltd
Unit 2, 16 Varman Crt
Nunawading 3131
Ph (03) 894 4183

Victorian Board
of Canoe Education
332 Banyule Rd
Viewbank 3084
Ph (03) 459 4251

Western Australia

Blackwood Expeditions
PO Box 64
Nannup 6275
Ph (097) 56 1081

Nangar Wilderness
Backpacking Expeditions
PO Box 1209
East Victoria Park 6101
Ph (09) 458 9738

Peregrine Adventures
Summit Travel
14 Flax St
862 Hay St
Perth 6000
(09) 321 1259

New Zealand

Alpine Guides Mt Cook Ltd
PO Box 20
Mt Cook National Park
Ph 64 3 435 1834

Alpine Guides (Westland)
PO Box 38
Fox Glacier
Ph 64 3 751 0825

Alpine Recreation
Canterbury Ltd
PO Box 75
Lake Tekapo
Ph 64 3 680 6736

Russell Braddock
Mountain & Ski Guide
33 Braemar Pl
Twizel
Ph 64 3 435 0858

Papua New Guinea

New Guinea Expeditions
Lower Ground Floor
100 Clarence St
Sydney 2000
Ph (02) 290 2055

CLASSIFIEDS

\$1.00 a word (minimum \$10)
prepaid. Deadlines:
15 January (autumn issue),
15 April (winter),
15 July (spring),
8 October (summer).
Advertisements will be in-
serted in the first available issue.
We reserve the right to alter or
reject any advertisement and
will not be held responsible for
errors although every care is
taken.

All advertisements are
accepted on the express
condition that they do not in
any way infringe the Trade
Practices Act or violate any
existing copyright or trade
mark.

Send order and payment to:
Wild Publications Pty Ltd,
PO Box 415, Prahran, Vic 3181.

ACCOMMODATION

Hobart town-house, Budget
accommodation for
bushwalkers in the heart of
Battery Point, central
Hobart. Quiet house in cul-de-sac, large garden for
drying gear, free laundry,
big kitchen for preparing
outdoor meals. Single, double
and twin-share rooms. Rates
from \$19/head—bed and
breakfast. Enquiries: Michael
and Noeline Minchin,
1 Snowell Ave, Battery Point,
Tas 7004. Phone
(002) 24 2329.

Mt Arapiles: Horsham-
Arapiles Backpackers
provides 20 beds for guests.
Large, comfortable period
home in native garden.
\$15/person/night.
Discounts for groups,
families and weekly
bookings. Phone
(03) 387 9735, (053) 84 0326.

The Springs' Lakeside
Cabins, Cummerah
National Park. Six cabins on
ten acres. Verandahs,
pot-bellies, beach walks.
Three hours south of Sydney
(004) 41 2067.

CLIMBING WALLS

Climbing walls. Entre-
prises, the world leader in
sport-climbing structures,
can solve your climbing wall
needs regardless of the size
of the project. Call on
(02) 264 2508 or
(18) 523 073.
Ask for Hire Verick.

Northern Beaches

Rockhouse. Opening soon!
At last, a quality gym for
Sydney's northern beaches.
For further information, call
Phil or Damian on (02)
918 0615, fax (02) 918 0004.

Sydney's first indoor
climbing gym is now open;
577 square metres of
textured climbing surface,
22 fixed ropes, 50 climbs
from grade 8 to 28, pro shop,
refreshments, tuition.
Phone (02) 716 6949.

The Hardrock Climbing
Company. Twenty vertical
and eight new overhanging
climbs, traversing wall, gear
shop, tuition, refreshments.
Open Monday-Friday
10 am-10 pm, Saturday,
Sunday 12 noon-10 pm.
16 Varman Crt, Nunawading.
Near Nunawading
station. Melway 48, E10.
Phone (03) 894 4183.

CLUBS

Australian Sport Climbing
Federation. The UIAA
representative in Australia.
Join now for \$30. Branches
in NSW and ACT. Membership
forms available:
GPO Box 3786, Sydney 2001.
Phone (02) 264 2908.
Fax (02) 264 2035.

Ramblers Bushwalking
Club Sydney. Regular day/
overnight walks, canyoning,
canyoning, cycling trips, ab-
seiling tuition and more!
Active social programme.
Meets first Tuesday of
month, 7.30 pm, Quakers
Hall, 119 Devonshire St,
Surry Hills, or call
(02) 868 1603.

The Victorian Climbing
Club meets at 8 pm on the
last Thursday of each month
except December at 188
Gatehouse St, Parkville 3052.
Visitors and new members
interested in rockclimbing
are welcome. Contact the
Secretary, GPO Box 1725P,
Melbourne, Vic 3001.

EMPLOYMENT

Outdoor store manager.
Full-time position available
in a Blue-Mountains-based
outdoor store. Good salary
and excellent conditions!
Must have previous senior
outdoor retail selling and/or
management background
plus a high level of climbing,
mountaineering and out-
door experience. Package
includes accommodation in
Katoomba and plenty of
time off. Call Rockclimb Out-
door Store on (047) 82 2014.

GEAR

Asolo mountaineering
boots as new, size seven,
and Salewa crampons, never
used. Phone (02) 330 1249
leave contact phone/fax.

Climbing holds from \$5.30.
Seconds and thirds (imper-
fect surfaces/shapes). All are
perfectly functional and
must clear. Contact Redman
Textiles (053) 56 6309. Also
enquire about our quality
Australian-made textured-

wall structures, boards and
climbing holds.

Recreational fabrics.
Polarsus, Polar fleece,
Tectile, Cordura, canvas
and various nylons.
Enquiries: Redman Textiles,
PO Box 338, Ararat 3377.
Phone (053) 56 6309 or
(053) 52 1283.
Fax (053) 56 6322.

Strike-A-Light magnesium
fire-starter. Australian-made
product for survival and
camping equipment.
Hand-type 915. Belt-type
\$12, plus postage. Available
from Strike-A-Light,
PO Box 48, Blackburn 3130.
Phone (03) 842 1554.

PUBLICATIONS

Adventure books. Specialist
dealer in mountaineering,
climbing, gunnar, true
adventure, travel, explora-
tion and natural history
books. Buying and selling.
For free catalogue send
name and address to:
Adventure Books,
3 Maple St, Maleny, Qld
4552, (074) 99 9977.

Camping stores. Let our
expert staff assist you
increase map and guidebook
sales! NEW ANDERSON
MAPS distributes Australia-
wide: AUSLIG, CMA

(NSW), VICMAP, DCNR,
TASMAP, SUNMAP, NSW
FORESTRY, MAPLAND
(SA). Bushwalking,
skiing, fishing, canoeing,
touring, 4WD and other
specialist maps and books.
See new Tasmania, NSW,
Victorian and Queensland
titles. Ask for trial selection,
sale/return, targeting your
club and area. If you're
only Phone Dianne or Nev
(02) 878 2809,
fax (02) 878 5475.

CATALOGUE: FREE.
Wildports' latest
comprehensive mail/phone
order catalogue can be yours
now! Free call 088 812 910.
In Sydney, 264 2095.

Mountain books and
magazines required.
Second-hand. Cash paid.
Call Simon Head
(03) 660 0599.

The 1993, 64-page, colour,
Paddy Pallin's Australia's
Australia's most
comprehensive outdoor
equipment catalogue is now
available by telephoning toll
free 088 805 398 (Melbourne
residents phone 670 9485).

REPAIRS

Backpacks, tents, clothing,
sleeping bags repaired with
care, plus quality custom
design service tailoring
adventure gear to your
needs. Gondwana Gear,
return postage to Lucas
Trilogy, 10 Apex Ave,
Mt Victoria, NSW 2786.
Ph (047) 87 1480.

Climbing boot resoles.
5.10 Stealth R2 and C4
rubber. Send boots and
payment of \$50 (includes
return postage) to Lucas
Trilogy, 10 Apex Ave,
Mt Victoria, NSW 2786.
Ph (047) 87 1480.

Gleeful Rippers. Sleeping-
bags—tears repaired,
zippers replaced, hand
washes refilled with 100%
goose down. Phone
(02) 519 1218.

Remote Equipment Repairs. Specializing in repairs and alterations to packs, tents, sleeping-bags (down-boosting), Gore-Tex rainwear, fleece and outdoor wear, ski clothing, alloy tent poles, zippers. Australia-wide service. Second floor, 377 Little Bourke St, Melbourne 3000. Phone (03) 670 2586. Fax (03) 670 7412.

TRAVEL, INSTRUCTION

A climbing course to suit your needs. Beginners, intermediate and advanced courses at Mt Arapiles available through The Climbing Company Pty Ltd, PO Box 166, Naticum 3409. Phone Louise Shepherd or Chris Peisker on (053) 87 1329.

Adventure Tours. The 1994 Outland Adventure Training Courses brochure is now available. Courses include Abseiling, Rock climbing and Kayaking (beginners and advanced); Survival and Navigation (bush and snow); River Guides Rating course. Swift-water Rescue Technician (1 and II); Scuba Diving (Open Water to Mixed Gas); Hang-gliding; and the definitive Remote Area Rescue and First Aid Course. This comprehensive six-day programme covers all elements of emergency and accident management. Phone Outland Expeditions for a free brochure—(02) 746 8025.

Adventure Plus... with Jon and Brigitte Muir • rockclimbing at Mt Arapiles; beginners and advanced • walking on Federation Peak and Kosciusko • expeditions every year to Aconcagua, New Zealand Alps, Russia, Antarctica • expeditions 1995: Kilimanjaro, Cho Oyu, unclimbed peak in China, Everest North Ridge • expeditions 1996: two 7000 metre peaks in Tibet, three peaks in Bolivia. For information and bookings: phone/fax (053) 87 1530. Jon and Brigitte Muir, PO Box 153, Naticum 3409.

Travel arrangements by World Expeditions (Licence no 31316).

Adventure Tasmania with Wandering Albatross. One- or two-day rafting and caving, four-, six- or 11-day panoramas includes cycling, rafting, camel trek, bushwalks, with accent on fun. (002) 24 1577 for brochure. Box 10, Sandy Bay, Tas 7005.

Alpine Guides Fox Glacier offers a full mountain guiding and instruction service using NZMGA qualified guides. The head of the Fox Glacier offers more easily accessible mountains than any other area in NZ and it is an ideal area for beginners or experts. For two or more people we can tailor a course especially for you. Until December ski touring is also possible. A network of hut links the Fox and Franz peaks. Phone 64 3 751 0825. Fax 64 3 751 0857.

Another bunch of hoes? NO! Caving with WILD CAVE TOURS is different. Photography, ecology and exploration in natural show-caves. Specialist guides, small groups. Half- or full-day trips. (003) 63 8142 Mole Creek, Tas.

Australia's Best Alpine Walks. Traverse Victoria's three highest peaks, seven days (6/95), superb 360 degree views, Alpine National Park wilderness, wild flowers, magnificent tall alpine ash and snow-gum forest. Crosscut Saw Walk, four days from Base Camp (5410). Bike, walk and canoe on Bush Explorer, four days (5570). Mountain bike Victoria's highest roads, seven days (5715). The region's specialists—established 1981. Bopong Jack Adventures, PO Box 221, Oxley, 3678. Phone (0557) 27 3382.

Canoe tours on Nymboida system. Also canoe hire with all necessary equipment. Kingfisher Adventures, PO Box 1286, Grafton, 2460. Phone (066) 43 2866.

Challenging bushwalks. Trek through remote wilderness areas within Alpine National Park. Gippsland High Country Tours. PO Box 49, Braithorn, Vic 3885. Phone (051) 57 5556.

Complete Climbing Instruction. Shorten the learning process—have a lesson. Climbing instruction based at Sydney Indoor Climbing Gym (Summer Hill). Hour lessons in the gym on technique and training. Outdoor courses and guiding also available (any standard). Contact MARK BAKER on 018 042 749.

Ecotrek walking and canoeing holidays. Camping and accommodated tours to Flinders Ranges, Kangaroo Island, Bopong, Cooper Creek, Glenelg River and the Grampians. Ecotrek, PO Box 4, Kangarilla 5157. Phone (08) 383 7196. Fax (08) 383 7377.

Franklin River expeditions. Five-, ten-day trips. Includes equipment. Four-wheel-drive access, sea-plane exit to Strahan. Tasmanian owned, operated with local guides. Wandering Albatross, PO Box 10, Sandy Bay, Tas 7005. Phone (002) 24 1577. Fax (002) 23 3046.

High Country Expeditions 1995 January/February Aconcagua (6900 metres) Polish-Standard Route, Argentina; January/April Mt Cook guided climbs and instruction, New Zealand; February Spectacular Southern Summits, South Island, New Zealand; April/May West Nepal—Mt Kailash trek, Mt Guria Mandata (7700 metres climb), Tibet. Shaun Norman NZMGA/UTM guide, 21 Cordley St, Twizel, New Zealand. Phone/fax 64 3 435 0622 (ah).

Magic Mountain Himalayan Adventures. Specialists in remote-area trekking and mountaineering in the Himalaya. Standard or customized itineraries catered for by

highly experienced staff at very competitive rates. For further information or advice, call us on phone (047) 58 7421, fax (047) 58 7423, or write to PO Box 40, Hazelbrook, NSW 2779.

Mountain Works Ltd. Outdoor equipment and guiding specialists in skiing and climbing courses.

45 Camp St, PO Box 647, Queenstown, New Zealand. Phone/fax 64 3 442 7329.

Mt Aspiring Guides Inc., the Adventure Centre. Ski touring and ski mountaineering courses and guided ascents in Mt Aspiring and Mt Cook National Parks. Rockclimbing instruction and guiding on the classic Matukituki crags and alpine rock routes. Paragliding school. Kayaking. Canyoning. River sledging. Contact Mt Aspiring Guides, the Adventure Centre, PO Box 177, Wanaka, New Zealand. Phone/fax 64 3 443 9422, fax 64 3 443 8876.

Myall Lakes Ecoscapes. Mountain bike and canoeing weekends exploring pristine forest, lakes and beaches two hours north of Sydney. Accommodation, gear and meals \$210. (049) 97 0113.

NICK SADOCK: PERSONALIZED PRIVATE GUIDING. New Zealand's highest peaks. Ski-touring courses. PO Box 247, Wanaka, New Zealand. Phone/fax 64 3 443 9185.

Rockclimbing School of Queensland. Enrol now in our Advanced Abseiling, Basic, Intermediate and Lead Climbing courses. Anchors workshop and Rockclimbing Rescue. Mountaineering courses in New Zealand, Nepal. For a brochure, call (07) 891 6772.

Shatter your altitude record on an elegant 7000 m peak in Tibet! All members summited on first trip. See Summits advertisement on page 109. Phone/fax (002) 27 9428.

Trek Hinchinbrook Island. East Coast Track. Two-seven days wilderness adventure. Experience jumble-fringed beaches, mountain streams, waterfalls, rain forest; all set against an impressive backdrop of cloud-covered volcanic peaks. MV Searcher fast island transfer departs Lucinda daily. Phone (077) 77 8307. Write Box 43, Lucinda, Qld 4850.

Trek Nepal at affordable prices with experienced Australian guides (for example, 30 days December \$3355). Also India, Africa. Ask for Hans or Lynda at Onda Travel, Lic 27A003055, ACN 003 875 130. Phone (02) 547 2155 or (02) 661 8928 (ah).

Try hang-gliding. 549 powered, \$79 boat tow. Max Air Sports 018 696 523.

Walking in Europe: tours in England, Australian Alps and French Pyrenees. Small groups, fully accommodated. Ecotrek, PO Box 4, Kangarilla 5157. Phone (08) 383 7196. Fax (08) 383 7377.

Walk south-east Queensland. Two- to four-day trips from base camps to National Parks such as Girraween and Lamington. Fully catered with equipment supplied. Day walks also available. Track 'n' Trail Trips, PO Box 416, Albion, Qld 4010. Phone (07) 262 1475.

Wilderness First Aid Consultants. For ten years, the leading edge in first aid training Australia-wide. Quality intensive first aid education and emergency response skills for wilderness areas where medical help is delayed. Three-day specialist course for back-country travellers. Seven-day comprehensive course for outdoor leaders. Organize a course in your area and receive your tuition free! Mail-order supplies: first aid kits, replacement items, reference books. Information-packed subscription newsletter. For information write to or phone: PO Box 165, Jindabyne, NSW 2627. (064) 56 1601.

EQUIPMENT REPAIRS

Specialists in Gore-Tex clothing, packs, tents, zippers, sleeping-bags (down boosting) and more. Interstate deliveries.

REMOTE EQUIPMENT REPAIRS

2nd Floor, 377 Little Bourke St, Melbourne, Vic 3000
Telephone (03) 670 2586



THE CLIMBING COMPANY

For Expert Instruction at Mt Arapiles, Australia's finest climbing venue.

- Group rates that are affordable for schools and clubs.
- Courses at all levels. Beginners to advanced.
- Guided climbs.
- Available 7 days a week

Phone Louise Shepherd or Chris Peisker (053) 87 1329

See classifieds for more information



The members and helpers of the 1994 Australian Chongkar Expedition would like to thank our sponsors for their support. Without their help the expedition would not have been possible:

Thai International Airways

Maldon Fleece
Macpac
Australian Geographic Society
Ashfield Indoor Climbing Gym

Wild and Rock magazines

Bonlac Foods
Pendle Ham and Bacon
Power Bars
San Remo
Mars Bars
Troy Maginnes
Margaret Werner
Vision Graphics
Fuji
Nikon



Hobart College students
sitting a tough
examination in Loons
Cave at Ida Bay, Tasmania.
Andrew Briggs

Wild welcomes slides for this
page; payment is at our
standard rate.
Send to the Editor, *Wild*,
PO Box 475, Prahran, Vic 3181.

Why are Eureka Tents sold and recommended by more specialty outdoor stores than any other brand?



It's simple! Eureka has the largest range, has proven reliability and is great value for money!



GOSSAMER



BIKE & HIKE



CLIP DOME 2 & 4



TIMBERLINE 2 & 4



RIISING SUN/AUTUMN WIND



EUREKA CADDIS



EQUINOX 3, 4 & 6

See your local dealer now!

A.C.T. JURKIEWICZ ADVENTURE SPORTS - FISHWICK BELCONNEN MOUNTAIN DESIGNS - BRADDOCK, PADDY PALLIN - BRADDOCK, SCOUT OUTDOOR CENTRE - BRADDOCK
 N.S.W. ADVENTURE SHOP - NEUTRAL BAY ALPSPORT - WEST RIDE ARIDIALE OUTDOORS - ARIDIALE BLUNYPS CAMPSITE - LISMORE BUSH & PADDLE SPORTS - SYDNEY BUSHCRAFT EQUIPMENT - WOLLONGONG CAMPING WORLD - LEUMEAH CANDE & CAMPING - GLADESVILLE EASTWOOD CAMPING CENTRE - EASTWOOD GLENBROOK OUTDOORS - GLENBROOK G.T. CAMPING - GOSFORD MOUNTAIN DESIGNS - SYDNEY KATOOMBA MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT - SYDNEY CHATSWOOD NEW ADVENTURE CENTRE - ORANGE OUTBACK BILLY'S - TWEED HEADS OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE - ALLURBY OUTDOORS PLUS - COPPS HARBOUR OUTDOOR SUPPLIES - WYSHILL, PADDY PALLIN - SYDNEY JINDABINE MIRANDA ROCKCRAFT - KATOOMBA SCOUT OUTDOOR CENTRE - CHATSWOOD HURSTVILLE NEWCASTLE PARARAMATTA WAGGA WAGGA SOUTHERN CROSS EQUIPMENT - SYDNEY CHATSWOOD HORNSBY SINGLE ROPE TECHNIQUE - MORTDALE THREE LEISURE & CAMPING - THREE THORNLEIGH TENT SALES - THORNLEIGH TRAMPING & CAMPING - BONDI JUNCTION WILDSPOOTS - SYDNEY QUEENSLAND ADVENTURE CAMPING EQUIPMENT - TOWNSVILLE ADVENTURE EQUIPMENT - CAIRNS BACK TRACK ADVENTURES - RADDINGTON BOOMERANG TENT CITY - COOPERS PLAINS CAMPING CENTRE - WOOLLOONGABBA CAMP CO - ROCKHAMPTON CAMP SPOT - CAIRNS EMERALD SPORTSCENE - EMERALD GREG POWER & CO. - TIDWOOOMBA HERVEY BAY CAMPING - HERVEY BAY IAN ATCHISON & CO. - MILTON JIM THE BACKPACKER - FORTITUDE VALLEY KANGAROO TENT CITY - SPRINGWOOD K3 BASE CAMP - FORTITUDE VALLEY MACKAY CAMPING - MACKAY HARDOOY DISPOSALS - MAROOCHDOORE MOUNTAIN DESIGNS - BRISBANE PALM BEACH NOOSA NTH SHORE OUTDOORS - NOOSA HEADS OUTBACK BILLY'S - SOUTHPORT SCOUT OUTDOOR CENTRE - FORTITUDE VALLEY TORRE MOUNTAIN CRAFT - TARRINGA
 NORTHERN TERRITORY DAVIS SPORTS - DARWIN N.T. GENERAL STORE - DARWIN SCOUT OUTDOOR CENTRE - DARWIN
 SOUTH AUSTRALIA FLINDERS CAMPING MOUNTAIN DESIGNS SCOUT OUTDOOR CENTRE THORPADDY PALLIN - ADELAIDE S.A. CAMPING CENTRE - MILE END
 TASMANIA BACKPACKERS BARIN - DEVONPORT COUNTRY COMFORT - HOBART ECHIDNA BUSHGEAR - DEVONPORT JOLLY SNOWMAN MOUNTAIN CREEK CAMPING PADDY PALLIN - HOBART PADDY PALLIN - LAUNCESTON SCOUT OUTDOOR CENTRE - HOBART YOUNGS OUTDOOR CENTRE - BURNIE
 WESTERN AUSTRALIA BOOTS CAMPING - BALCATRA VICTORIA PARK PERTH BUSHED - ALBANY OFF THE EDGE - SUBICO PADDY PALLIN - PERTH MOUNTAIN DESIGNS - PERTH COTTESLOE SCOUT OUTDOOR CENTRE - PERTH WILDERNESS EQUIPMENT - FREMANTLE
 VICTORIA ALPS - HEATHMONT BODOGON - MELBOURNE BRIGHT OUTDOORS - BRIGHT BUSH & MOUNTAIN SPORTS - MELBOURNE CAMPING WORLD - WARRNAMBOOL FREEDOM CAMPING - MELBOURNE GO BUSH CAMPING - LEONATHA VY INDOOROUTDOOR - KYRIARAI MOUNTAIN DESIGNS - HARTSHORN MELBOURNE MORWELL MOUNTAIN SPORTS - WODONGA OUTSPORTS - CALFIELD FRANKSTON PADDY PALLIN - BOX HILL MELBOURNE SCOUT OUTDOOR CENTRE - BENDIGO GEELONG MITCHAM MOORABBIN STRZELECKI CAMPING - WARRAGUL WILDERNESS SHOP - BOX HILL WILLOUGHBY'S - WANGARATTA WIMMERA OUTDOORS - HORSHAM

NEW 1994
CATALOGUE
OUT NOW!

Eureka!

For a free catalogue contact
 Johnson Camping, PO Box 318, Ermington, 2115
 Phone (02) 748 0199. Fax (02) 748 0803.

A DIVISION OF JOHNSON WORLDWIDE ASSOCIATES AUSTRALIA PTY LTD. A.C.N. 003 929 128

MAXIMUM COMFORT MAXIMUM PERFORMANCE



With Peter Storm's New Microlight Range

Here is a breakthrough in comfort, performance and design in outdoor clothing. Our 915 Microlight and 918 Ladylight Mountain Jackets take the inherently high water repellency of microfibre fabric and add to it our own MVT proofing to give a highly breathable (90 litres MVT) 100% waterproof material that has the look and feel of the softest unproofed cotton. At a price that is easy on the pocket, too.

Available from good outdoor stockists everywhere.

Peter Storm

MAKES GREAT-LOOKING SPORTSMEN AND WOMEN

Peter Storm (Australasia) Pty Ltd, 4B Wilmette Place, Mona Vale, NSW 2103, Australia.
Telephone (02) 997 3611. Fax (02) 997 4316.